



QY 1950 →

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

MR ERNIE LAZAR
APARTMENT 6
577 SOUTH THORNHILL ROAD
PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264 7884

August 31, 2007

Subject: CLOSE, UPTON

FOIPA No. 1049970-000

65-11986
#1 = #23
5/25/40 + 12/7/41
4/6/72

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552

- (b)(1)
- (b)(2)
- (b)(3) _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- (b)(4)
- (b)(5)
- (b)(6)

Section 552a

- (b)(7)(A)
- (b)(7)(B)
- (b)(7)(C)
- (b)(7)(D)
- (b)(7)(E)
- (b)(7)(F)
- (b)(8)
- (b)(9)

- (d)(5)
- (j)(2)
- (k)(1)
- (k)(2)
- (k)(3)
- (k)(4)
- (k)(5)
- (k)(6)
- (k)(7)

218 page(s) were reviewed and 200 page(s) are being released.

Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

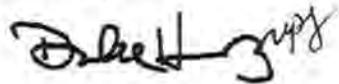
You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s).

If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Hardy".

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET 11/11/1111

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 18
Page 11 ~ Referral/Direct
Page 23 ~ Duplicate
Page 24 ~ Duplicate
Page 44 ~ Referral/Direct
Page 45 ~ Referral/Direct
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Page 101 ~ Duplicate
Page 102 ~ Duplicate

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HERU / FBI DOCUMENT WITH DOMESTIC REFERRALS: HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Name _____ Date _____

The following portions of Bureau documents should be referred to the originating agency for both Classification and Disclosure determination:

HERU / FOREIGN REFERRALS: HISTORICAL DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Name _____

Date 7/26/00

The following documents or portions of documents should be referred to the originating Foreign Agency for both Classification and Disclosure determinations:

HERU / 3rd AGENCY DOCUMENTS: HISTORICAL DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Name _____

Date

9/26/00

The following documents should be referred to the originating Agency for both Classification and Disclosure determinations:

9305

Chattanooga, Tenn., May-25th-1940

Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:-

I am attaching an editorial which appeared in last night's Chattanooga News-Free Press concerning a speaker who appeared on the program of the local Executives' Club last Wednesday evening, May 22nd.

Unfortunately, I could not be present at that meeting altho I am a member and I just thought you might want to investigate the man referred to in this article.

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b7C

Care Effrons' Inc.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-14-99 BY SP/CLK/HM

6/19/40
b6
b7C

65-11986-1

RECORDED & INDEXED	2 MAY 27 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

ENCLOSURE

9336

Close Should Be Closed

In times when there is no national emergency, we believe in the American principle of freedom of speech. We have listened in enjoyment to Norman Thomas, to Earl Browder and various super-liberals in days past without approving a word they uttered. Wednesday night, a man named Upton Close—or at least whose "nom de guerre" is Upton Close—delivered an address to a Chattanooga Executive Club that could have been written by Mr. Hitler himself. He presented some truths regarding rotten conditions that have prevailed in England and France and elaborated on them with a Hans Christian Andersen skill into some amazing and ridiculous but entertaining ramifications tending to prove his basic contention that the Germans are a superior race and should be given the task of building and bossing a Pan-European state. These are perilous days. Mr. Close's mouth should be placed in the condition indicated by his name.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-14-09 BY SP1 CLK/HM

65-11986-1

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

LMC:JHK
65-11986-1

June 14, 1940

9384

[Redacted]
Elvrons Incorporated
Chattanooga, Tennessee

b6
b7C

Dear [Redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated May 25, 1940, together with the newspaper clipping enclosed therewith, and to express my appreciation to you for the interest which prompted you to communicate with me.

You may be assured the contents of your communication have been noted and made a matter of record.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc Knoxville

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4-14-99 BY SP/CLK/JMT

U. S. A SURVEY

So Says Upton Close, Associate Editor
of *Time Magazine*.

KNOWS WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE

This Charlotte Audience Some Interesting Things About Ourselves
World War Was Never Started, We
Not In It—Close, Authorizing My
Country—Who Is Paying for World

The United States has been a sucker long enough." That was the sentiment expressed by Upton Close, eminent historian and authority on foreign affairs, who addressed the Executive Club in Charlotte the other night, writes Ben E. Adkins in *Charlotte Gazette*.

Mr. Close told his audience (which unfortunately was not very large) some things that should make America's hair fairly stand on end. Some things that 99 per cent of our people have never dreamed of nor suspected. I wish every American could have heard his address. I am going to attempt to pass on some of his startling revelations.

First, a word about Upton Close. His hobby and his work is history. For twenty years he has served as a correspondent, special writer, and a member of the American Intelligence Service in foreign places. He has made an especial study of wars, their causes and effects. He has been on the inside track in Europe since the entry of America into the World War, and during all the years that have followed. Today he is an associate editor of *Time*. He knows what he's talk about. He has the facts. And the facts he has are enough to set every American to some serious thinking.

Now to pass on some of the most important things Mr. Close revealed in his Charlotte address.

Did you know that the World War was over before America got in it? I didn't. But Mr. Close did.

It is a fact, he said, that one year before Woodrow Wilson went before Congress to demand a declaration of war against Germany, envoys from Austria were in Paris and Berlin with commissions to make an armistice with France and to inform Kaiser Wilhelm that Austria was getting out of the war . . . that he could go on alone.

YORKVILLE ENQUIRER

YORK, S.C.
5-30-40

Obviously, would have ended in a stalemate. It would have been the kind of an end which has been disdained.

But just as the Austrian envoys were about to carry out their commission, it leaked through that America was to declare war when the most famous flew back and forth between Paris and Berlin and the deal was off.

Why? Because the question arose: "Who is going to pay for this war?" Certainly Germany couldn't. France was broke. England didn't have a cent:

they said, let Uncle Sam come in and let the war go on. If we get him really interested in this war, if we really let him get hurt, he'll be the sucker to pay the bill.

And Uncle Sam did pay the bill. He's still paying.

Did you know that England financed and supported Japan's invasion of Manchuria? Upton Close was at that time in Tokyo, and saw the whole porrid deal going off under his own nose. He saw the British maneuver to have Charles and Anne Lindbergh visit Japan with every foreign correspondent ordered to devote all his cable allowance to their activities, in order that the Japanese might take over Manchuria practically unnoticed. Thus, in this stroke, Great Britain defied and laughed at the "Open Door" treaty she had co-signed with the United States and Japan a short before.

The Manchurian deal, Close declared, was the beginning of the reign of the wealthy British toiles (Sir John Simon, Chamberlain, Henderson, and others) which today threatens to bring the downfall and disintegration of the British empire.

It is a fact, he said, that one year before Woodrow Wilson went before Congress to demand a declaration of war against Germany, envoys from Austria were in Paris and Berlin with commissions to make an armistice with France and to inform Kaiser Wilhelm that Austria was getting out of the war . . . that he could go on alone.

Nine-tenths of all the armaments with which Germany today threatens to blow England to pieces was either financed or actually manufactured by Great Britain. Did you know that? I didn't.

Did you know that the M. of War in Germany (the only control) since the time of Hitler, has been Germany (the most important of interest) and which into tanks.

Did you know that England gave Czechoslovakia to Hitler? Take down to France, even though the day of the war, had been trying to get the Czechs to do the same thing. England knew that the Czechs were the most efficient in the

operating on French coast. It was a good opportunity to burn France in her place. So the Czechs were sacrificed to Hitler on the altar of stupid English arrogance and meanness.

Did you know that this "gift" to Hitler gave him the extra munitions he needed for a Blitzkrieg against Norway, France and England?

Did you know that the day after his legions marched into Prague, 58,000 carloads of war materials were rail-roaded into Germany?

Did you know that England knew two years before it happened, that Germany was going to invade Norway?

Did you know that England and France knew for seven years, before they started trying to match him, that Hitler was building the greatest armies in history?

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61 ✓ ✓ ✓

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
JUN 1 1940	
CHARLOTTE FIELD OFFICE	
ROUTED TO	FILE

Did you know that three days ago the Bank of England, at the order of Sir John Simon, turned over to Germany \$30,000,000 in Czech gold that had been held in their vaults all of which went into additional war material?

Did you know that the present war saved France from the most astounding scandal of political robbery in the annals of history?

"We hope of course that the Allies, by some miracle, will be able to hold off the legions of Hitler," said Mr. Close.

"But if they can't," he continued, "let us say that they hung themselves. There is no one to blame but France and Britain and their greed and

the danger of a Nazi invasion of the United States, Mr. Close had

When the present war is over (which will be but a matter of days) Hitler will not have enough war materials left to Blitzkrieg an uninhabited island as big as your hat, much less America.

"So let us go about our defense program with a definite plan, and not headlong, spending money before we know what we're going to do with it. We have plenty of time. But we must get on with our planning and build two airplanes for Hitler's one, double all his munitions, and let him know that he would be a fool to think of attacking us five, ten, twenty years from now."

When one considers the facts presented by Mr. Close one is inclined to say that Uncle Sam has been a sucker long enough, and that should he thrust himself into the European war he would be a real sucker of a nation.

914 Johnston Building
Charlotte, North Carolina

June 6, 1940

Mr. Lewis O. Padgett
Agent in Charge
United States Secret Service
Post Office Box 1424
Charlotte, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter
dated May 31, 1940, together with the clipping from the
Yorkville Inquirer for May 30, 1940, which was furnished
to you by [redacted]

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I greatly appreciate your furnishing this
information to this office.

Very truly yours,

NHM/kam, jol
61-46

EDWARD SCHEIDT
Special Agent in Charge

CC-Bureau

Re: [redacted]

informant

b6
b7C

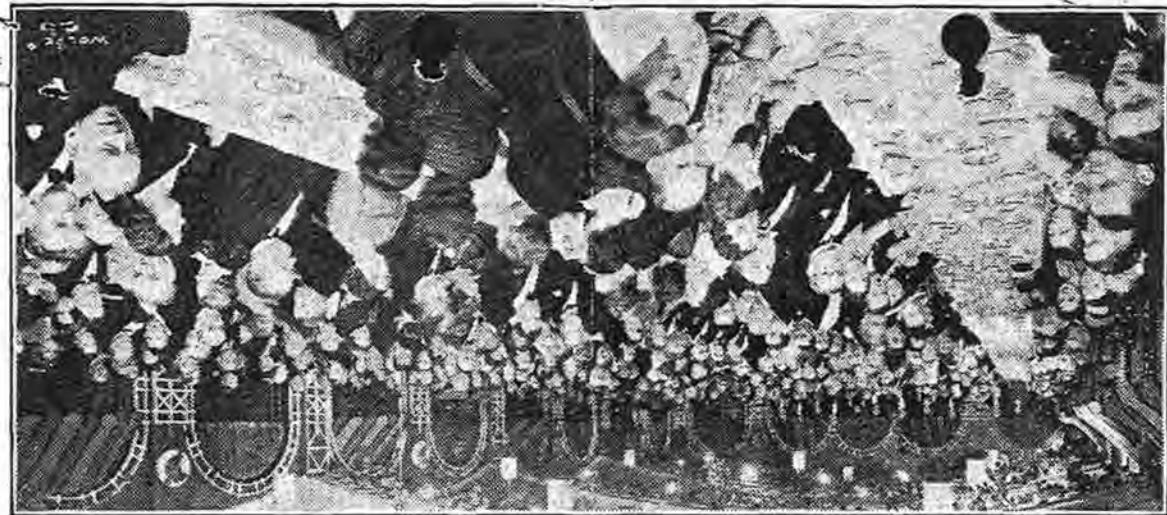
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65-11986-1X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
4 JUN 11 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FBI - WILMINGTON	

1 ENCL. FM



A TYPICAL LADIES NIGHT DINNER

GUEST SPEAKERS

Here is a Partial List of Speakers Who Have Appeared Before Various Clubs
Any speaker may be suggested by any member. Guest speakers are usually active national leaders in business, government, and the professions—men who know how to meet a payroll, or who can discuss great national developments and current problems. No speaker is ever approved whose views are known to be subversive to the American system of government, or to freedom of religious belief. Otherwise, the club is a free forum.

Barclay Acheson
Hon. Henry J. Allen
General Smedley D. Butler
Raymond Clapper
Upton Close
Dr. Arthur H. Compton
Rt. Hon. Alfred Duff-Cooper
Dr. Will Durant
Major George Fielding Eliot
DeWitt M. Emery
Dr. John Erskine
Dr. Morris Fishbein
Dr. Glenn Frank
Phil S. Hanna
Stanley High
Julien Huxley
H. V. Kaltenborn
Alexander Kerensky
H. R. Knickerbocker
Prince Hubertus Loewenstein
Lord Marley
Sir Charles Morgan-Webb
Dr. Harold G. Moulton
Dr. Walter B. Pitkin
Channing Pollock
George E. Sokolsky
Vilhjalmur Stefansson
Carl Taylor
James Shelby Thomas
Edward Tomlinson
DeLoss Walker
Dr. Gerald L. Wendt
Senator Burton K. Wheeler
Dr. A. E. Wiggam
Sir Hubert Wilkin

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The Executives Club

Devoted to the better acquaintance of America's front-rank business and professional men with outstanding figures of world government, industry, finance, business and science.

Member
Associated Executives Clubs



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
347 MADISON AVE.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

TYPICAL EXECUTIVES CLUB YEAR'S SCHEDULE

January 17—**James Shelby Thomas**
President Chrysler Institute of Engineering—"New Frontiers for Smart People."

February 9—**Dr. Morris Fishbein**
America's Number One Medical Spokesman—"Socialized Medicine."

March 9—**Sir Charles Morgan-Webb**
Internationally famous economist—"What Will Happen to Your Money."

April 7—**Gerald Wendt**
Director of Science New York World's Fair—"From Test Tubes to Dividends."

May 4—**Will Durant**
World Famous Philosopher-Historian—"A Blue Print for a Better America."

September 20—**Edward Tomlinson**
N.B.C. Commentator on Latin America—"New Roads to Riches in the Other Americas."

October 18—**General Smedley D. Butler**
Fiery General of the Marines—"What About Uncle Sam's Re-armament Program?"

November 16—**Upton Close**
International expert—"Our Job in the Pacific."

December 10—**Harold G. Moulton**
President Brookings Institution—"Present Economic Trends."

THE EXECUTIVES CLUB

The local club is one of many which are scattered across the country. It will enable local business leaders to join the aristocracy of thousands of American key men from coast to coast who are associated, at monthly dinners, with nationally known guest speakers. The visits of these speakers are arranged thru the New York office of the Associated Executives Clubs, which with its affiliated national organizations, comprise the largest speakers club in the world.

PURPOSE

The purposes of the organization are: (1) To entertain from time to time distinguished men of national and international prominence. (2) To keep the public at large informed on modern business and public problems by means of addresses by these national leaders. (3) To promote social contacts among business and professional leaders of the entire trade territory. (4) To provide means of recreation, fellowship and entertainment for its members.

The Club is not a classification, civic, sectarian, or political organization but is a social dinner club which meets in the evening for the purpose of entertaining distinguished guests of outstanding reputation. It provides a common meeting ground for the members of all other clubs. There is no compulsory attendance and there are no dues and no "community chores."

Ordinarily a dinner is held once each month except during the summer. Frequently an opportunity is given the ladies of the members to enjoy the banquets and the presence of distinguished guests.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

The first Men's Dinner Club was organized in Kansas City in 1898. It was the world famous Knife and Fork Club. Later many other cities copied the idea and at present nearly every larger city has such an organization.

The enjoyable but dignified dinners of these clubs, with world figures as guests, provide the modern type of fellowship opportunity for many men who are "fed up" on "too many organizations," too many obligations, too much propaganda. They enable the individual business or professional leader to maintain regular personal contact in his own city with national figures and give him the same quality of first hand information he could otherwise secure only in great national conventions. In a streamline, radio age they help to break down distances and promote closer contacts among business and civic leaders in America's key cities. The entire direction of each club is retained locally.

DUES

The membership fee is \$15.00 which includes first year's dues. Dues thereafter are \$10.00 annually.

ORGANIZATION
COMMITTEE

H. POWELL CHAPMAN
HENRY A. DUDLEY, JR.
REV. H. SPENCER EDMUNDS, D. D.
DR. E. G. GILL
R. V. HALSEY
C. D. HURT
KENNETH R. HYDE
L. V. JESSEE
DR. A. P. JONES
W. COURTEEN KING
M. S. McCULLING
D. E. McQUILKIN
ROBERT J. MEYBIN
MOSS A. PLUNKETT
DR. HARRY B. STONE, JR.
JAMES E. THOMAS
DR. L. J. WALTON
DR. W. R. WHITMAN
MAYOR WALTER W. WOOD

THE EXECUTIVES CLUB

P. O. BOX 1215

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

May 31, 1940

Dear [redacted]

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You are invited to become a charter member of the Roanoke Executives Club. It is a Men's Dinner Club, where business and professional leaders meet once a month (except summer) with world figures as guests. It is similar to organizations in Nashville, Chattanooga, Charlotte, Norfolk, Montgomery, Columbus, Tampa, Milwaukee, Chicago, Salt Lake City, etc., where many of the leading men of the seventy associated clubs hold membership.

The enclosed brochure will give you an idea of the social and entertainment opportunities offered. An Executives Club brings men who are active in the business and professional life of this and other countries, who know how to meet a payroll - leaders who either are making history or observing it from especial vantage points, whose pronouncements are headline news, and whose coming would add to Roanoke's reputation as a business, cultural and educational center.

It will provide opportunity for men of all other organizations, not only from Roanoke, but the entire trade territory (and frequently their ladies as well) to meet at dinner periodically. The committee felt that you would be interested, and since the membership must be strictly limited, we will appreciate your filling out and returning the enclosed card promptly to -

The Executives Club,
P. O. Box 1215
or to any member of committee.

Dues will carry until March 31, 1941 - seven speakers.

Many outstanding men in the business and professional life of Roanoke and vicinity have expressed high approval of and the desire to participate in an Executives Club when formed. [redacted]

[redacted] who is acting as [redacted] will be glad to refer you to any of these gentlemen whom you may know, whose names do not appear on the committee, should you care to phone him at [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4/1/99 BY CPL CUK/mw

Sincerely yours,
THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

b6
b7C

ROSTER OF ROANOKE EXECUTIVE CLUB
as of June 14, 1940

F. E. Bishop, 1202 Avenham Ave.
John I. Bowman, 102 Park St.
C. A. Brown, Boxley Building
J. F. Brumback, Jr., c/o C. D. Kenny Co.

Dr. J. Lawson Cabaniss, Col-Am. Bk. Bldg.
H. Powell Chapman, Times-World Corp.
H. W. Coddington, N. & W. Railway Co.
W. Clay Counts, Rke. Welding & Equip. Co.

Dr. Littleton Davis, Medical Arts Bldg.
Tom S. Deyerle, c/o Thurman & Boone Co.
Dr. J. M. Dixon, Medical Arts Bldg.
C. T. Dudley, c/o Va. Supply Co.
Henry A. Dudley, Jr., Boxley Bldg.
George Dunglinson, Jr. N. & W. Railway Co.

Rev. H. Spencer Edmunds, D. D.
T. Woody Evans, Boxley Building

C. S. Giles, c/o Giles Brothers
Dr. Elbyrne G. Gill, 711 S. Jefferson St.
John L. Godwin, 649 Windsor Ave.
Dr. K. D. Graves, Medical Arts Bldg.
Dr. A. M. Groseclose, Medical Arts Bldg.

R. V. Halsey, N. & W. Railway Co.
Elmore D. Heins, Am. Theatre Bldg.
David D. Hinman, R. F. D. 1
Sam H. Hudson, 1st Nat'l Exchange Bank
Dr. T. J. Hughes, 873 Riverside Drive
C. D. Hurt, c/o Stone Ptg. & Mfg. Co.
W. S. Hurt, 356 Allison Ave.
Kenneth R. Hyde, Hotel Roanoke

I. V. Jessee, N. & W. Railway Co.
E. R. Johnson, Liberty Trust Bldg.
Lucius C. Johnson, Johnson Chevrolet
Dr. Marcellus Johnson, Jr., Lewis-Gale
Hospital

Dr. A. P. Jones, Jefferson Hospital

Peyton R. Keller, 124 W. Kirk Ave.
W. Courtney King, State & City Bank Bldg.

George A. Layman, 602 Greenwood Road
C. G. Lindsey, Box 443

R. R. MacDonald, 726 1st St., S. E.
J. H. Matthews, 1st Nat'l Exchange Bank
M. S. McClung, 5 College Ave., Salem
W. J. McCorkindale, Jr., Boxley Bldg.
John W. McNair, U. S. Forest Service
D. E. McQuilkin, Rke. Public Schools
Johnson McRee, Liberty Trust Bldg.
Norman R. McVeigh, Mick-or-Mack Stores
Robert J. Meybin, Va. Bridge Co.
B. F. Moomaw, Chamber of Commerce

Richard A. Nelson, 873 Maiden Lane

Dr. Walter M. Otey, Medical Arts Bldg.

J. H. Pence, 119 E. Church Ave.
A. S. Pflueger, 118 W. Campbell Ave.
Moss A. Plunkett, Shenandoah Life Bldg.

D. W. Richards, Box 14, Salem
J. F. Riddick, Jefferson High School
J. W. Ring, 416 Cornwallis Ave.
Harry L. Rosenbaum, Box 2384

R. H. Slater, Col-Am. Bank Bldg.
Walter H. Scott, Box 1648

Dr. Blanton Page Seward, Lewis-Gale Hosp.
Dr. Andrew D. Shapiro, Medical Arts Bldg.
C. D. M. Showalter, Box 2281
Louis R. Showalter, Box 2281
Dr. C. J. Smith, Roanoke College, Salem
Allen W. Staples, Box 614
Dr. Harry B. Stone, Jr., Med. Arts Bldg.

Fred E. Taylor, 131 W. Campbell Ave.
James E. Thomas, 14 Kirk Ave., W.
Dr. Hugh H. Trout, Jefferson Hospital
James A. Turner, 139 W. Campbell Ave.

Darnall Vinyard, Vinton

George L. Wade, Box 2320
Dr. L. J. Walton, Shenandoah Life Bldg.
P. C. Whitlock, Covington, Va.
Dr. W. R. Whitman, Lewis-Gale Hospital
W. P. Wiltsee, 724 Avenham Ave.
Walter W. Wood, State & City Bk. Bldg.

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DATE 4/15/99 BY SP1 CLK/JM/T

The following list shows some of the speakers who are being used by other Executives in Clubs throughout the United States this coming season. You will notice that practically all of them are men who are discussing PRESENT DAY PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN--those who have a pay-roll to meet, and National and International Affairs.

Your immediate response will be appreciated as we hope to hold the first meeting very soon. When sending in your membership card please return this list marked serially (1-2-3-4-5) showing your choice in order numbered, of five speakers on this list. We need to make reservation right away. Some speakers are nearly booked up now. Meetings held in the evenings, usually one a month except summer.

Stanley High	Political Analyst, Saturday Evening Post.
Rt. Hon. A. D. Cooper	Formerly First Lord of the British Admiralty. (This speaker has been scheduled but it is now doubtful that he will be able to fill his engagements.)
General Smedley Butler	National figure. Excellent speaker, plenty of humor, colorful address, against sending troops abroad. Subject: "War A Racket."
H. R. Knickerbocker	Commentator - Scooped the world on German-Polish break.
Carl Taylor	One of America's most brilliant orators. Building and Loan Executive of Milwaukee. Subject: "What Made America Great."
H. G. Moulton	President Brookings Institute. Probably most influential economist of present day.
Upton Close	Technical Expert for "Time" and "Commentator" on Asiatic affairs. "The World March of Italy, Germany and Japan, and Effect on the U. S." Very forceful speaker.
Albert Edward Wiggin	Social and Political Philosopher. "Who Shall Inherit the Earth?" Gives many little-known facts concerning the development of humanity.
Raymond Clapper	One of America's best known commentators.
James Shelby Thomas	President of Chrysler's Institute of Engineering. Fine Speaker.
Dr. Gerald Wendt	Editor "Chemical News." Recently Director of Research for Standard Oil. Director of Science for the New York World's Fair, 1939. Subject: "Science Behind the News." Shows business men how business is going to be changed very shortly by what is now going on in the laboratory.
Dr. Arthur H. Compton	World's leading living scientist.
Will Durant	World famous philosopher and historian.
Vilhjalmur Stefansson	Explorer and scientist.
Dr. Morris Fishbein	America's best known Medical Spokesman.
Sir Charles Morgan Webb	World authority on managed currency.
Ruth Bryan Owen	America's best known woman diplomat.
Earl P. Hanson	Author. Expert on South America. Attention Arresting talk "The American Axis" explaining foreign infiltration

ORGANIZATION
COMMITTEE

H. POWELL CHAPMAN
HENRY A. DUDLEY, JR.
REV. H. SPENCER EDMUNDS, D. D.
Dr. E. G. GILL
R. V. HALSEY
C. D. HURT
KENNETH R. HYDE
I. V. JESSEE
Dr. A. P. JONES
W. COURTNEY KING
M. S. MCCLUNG
D. E. MCQUILKIN
ROBERT J. MEYBIN
MOSS A. PLUNKETT
DR. HARRY B. STONE, JR.
JAMES E. THOMAS
DR. L. J. WALTON
DR. W. R. WHITMAN
MAYOR WALTER W. WOOD

THE EXECUTIVES CLUB
P. O. BOX 1215
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

June 14, 1940

Dear [redacted]

b6
b7C

We hope you are planning to accept the invitation recently extended to you to join the Roanoke Executives Club.

We believe that both the type of men who belong to the Club and the contacts with the outstanding men who will be our guest speakers will make these dinners among the most notably enjoyable ever held in Roanoke. We expect to announce within a few days the selection of the first speaker and the date of his appearance, which, it is hoped, we can arrange during the last week in this month.

The enclosed "Speaker List", including roster, will give you the picture of the Club and its plans at present. It will be a strictly "do as you please" organization, no attendance requirements, no duties, no obligations, operated strictly for the enjoyment of its members. Meetings held in the evening once a month except summer months.

The Committee will soon complete the roster. We want you with us if you are interested. In any case we would appreciate knowing what your decision is. If you have misplaced the card, a note on your letterhead will serve just as well. Address all correspondence to P. O. Box 1215, Roanoke, Va.

Sincerely yours,

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/15/99 BY SP1 CLK/MT

P. S. If you have mailed your acceptance card and receive this letter it is an indication that it had not reached us up to the time of posting. Will you please let us know promptly if this is the case? Thank you.

ORGANIZATION
COMMITTEE

H. POWELL CHAPMAN
HENRY A. DUDLEY, JR.
REV. H. SPENCER EDMUNDS, D. D.
Dr. E. G. GILL
R. V. HALSBY
C. D. HURT
KENNETH R. HYDE
I. V. JESSEE
Dr. A. P. JONES
W. COURNEY KING
M. S. MCCLUNG
D. E. MCQUILKIN
ROBERT J. MEYBIN
MOSS A. PLUNKETT
DR. HARRY B. STONE, JR.
JAMES E. THOMAS
DR. L. J. WALTON
DR. W. R. WHITMAN
MAYOR WALTER W. WOOD

THE EXECUTIVES CLUB

P. O. BOX 1215
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

June 22, 1940

Dear [redacted]

b6
b7C

We have still not received a reply to the invitation mailed you to join the Executives Club. We have no wish to "campaign" anybody to join the Club, but if you are like most of us, you put aside matters that do not require an immediate answer and particularly those concerning which you may not have made up your mind.

The members of the Organization Committee do not want anyone to join the Executives Club for any reason except the pleasure and profit which he is in a position to receive personally from the organization. It is, definitely, not a community matter in any sense.

However, the members of the Committee want the kind of a group that will enjoy meeting together, eating together, and listening together to the world figures we plan to bring to Roanoke.

The date of the first meeting has been set, and we are very fortunate to have secured this outstanding speaker, as shown by the printed "Executives Clubman" enclosed. The roster on the back of this "Clubman" shows the membership list to date. We would like to have you with us if you are interested, and would appreciate a note indicating your decision.

Sincerely yours,

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-7-99 BY SP1 CLK/HMT

65-11986-2

THE EXECUTIVE CLUBMA

CLUBMAN

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

JULY, 1940

First Dinner to be Held on Monday, July 1st, 1940

The Roanoke Executives Club will hold its first meeting and dinner in the Hotel Roanoke's air-conditioned ball on Monday, July 1st, with Upton Close as the guest speaker. Members and their guests will be seated at 7:00 p. m. Tickets for the dinner will be \$1.25 each and may be secured at the door.

The members of the club will entertain their ladies at the first dinner. Any member may bring one or more ladies . . . there is no limit on number. Sons of members if under twenty-one years of age or sons over twenty-one years of age who are still in school may be invited to any dinner.

Either dinner or informal dress will be appropriate as members choose—there will be many present dressed both ways.

The Board of Directors elected by the mail ballot will be announced at the meeting as well as the selection of the club's officers for the ensuing fiscal year. This Board and the officers will manage the club's activities from then on.

The roster (shown on the reverse of this sheet) lists the names of members to date of going to press.

Mr. Close is one of the best informed public speakers in America at the present time. The Organization Committee, in cooperation with the National Office of the Associated Clubs, has been actively searching the United States and foreign nations in order to bring to the dinners of the club, world leaders who will be of outstanding interest to Roanoke's business and professional men. And having taken into consideration the consensus of opinion as reflected on the preferred speakers poll the Organization Committee has secured Mr. Raymond Clapper, one of the country's best known commentators on the fall and winter season and is endeavoring to procure dates for the appearance of James Shelby Thomas, president of the Chrysler Institute of Engineering for Research; Gerald A. Wendt, Director of Science and Education, New York World's Fair; Carl Taylor, of Milwaukee, Wis., one of America's brilliant orators, and Sir Charles Morgan-Webb, of London, very renowned authority on managed currency, whose subject is: "What Will Happen to Your Money?" These and many other speakers are being considered so that the dinners will not only be worthwhile but pleasurable as well.

If your dues have been paid your membership card should be found attached to this sheet. Other cards will be mailed as checks are received or may be obtained from the secretary the night of the dinner.

RESHAPING OUR AMERICAN WORLD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-15-99 BY SPI CLK/MJ

By UPTON CLOSE

Roanoke's first Executives Club's speaker, Upton Close, is one of the most brilliant and best informed of American speakers and writers of today. His great background of world travel and historical knowledge give him an understanding of world events equalled by few.

When civilization is rocked by wars, military and economic, when our country is arming for defense, when we are bombarded with propaganda for this and that "ism" from far and near, every thinking American demands the facts behind the headlines. Upton Close, stands preeminent, as one whose experience qualifies him to discuss these issues as they may affect us of the American World.

Mr. Close, whose name is not Close at all, but Joseph Washington Hall, is a unique character. His nom de plume was given to him while serving in the American intelligence service in China. It was a code identity phrase and came from his habit of "going to the fighting line."

"I traveled all over Europe and Asia and is the author of . . ."



Roster of the Roanoke Executives Club

TO JUNE 19, 1940

DR. J. H. BAILEY	Medical Arts Building	W. J. McCORKINDALE, JR.	Boxley Building
J. E. BISHOP	1202 Avenham Avenue	JOHN W. McNAIR	United States Forest Service
JOHN I. BOWMAN	c/o A. Bowman & Son	D. E. McQUILKIN	Roanoke Public Schools
C. A. BROWN	Boxley Building	JOHNSON McREE	Liberty Trust Building
F. BRUMBACK, JR.	101 Norfolk Avenue	NORMAN R. McVEIGH	Mick-or-Mack Stores Co. Inc.
C. PRESTON BRUMFIELD	507 Jefferson Street, S.	ROBERT J. MEYBIN	c/o Virginia Bridge Co.
J. L. BUSH	c/o Bush-Flora Shoe Co.	ANSELM D. MILLER	c/o Virginia Metal Manufacturing Co.
DR. J. LAWSON CABANISS	Colonial American Nat'l Bank Bldg.	B. F. MOOMAW	c/o Chamber of Commerce
H. POWELL CHAPMAN	Times-World Corp.	JAMES B. MORGAN	330 Robin Hood Road
WALLACE S. CLEMENT	125 Norfolk Avenue, S. W.	RICHARD A. NELSON	873 Maiden Lane
J. W. CODDINGTON	Norfolk and Western Railway Co.	DR. WALTER M. OTEY	Medical Arts Building
W. CLAY COUNTS	Roanoke Welding & Equipment Co. Inc.	DR. H. C. PADGETT	Pythian Building
DR. LITTLETON DAVIS	Medical Arts Building	DR. THOMAS E. PAYNE	Medical Arts Building
Tom S. DEVERLE	c/o Thurman & Boone Co.	J. H. PENCE	119 Church Avenue, E.
DR. J. M. DIXON	Medical Arts Building	A. S. PFLUEGER	118 Campbell Avenue, W.
W. HENRY DOWDY	32 Church Avenue, S. W.	DR. W. L. POWELL	Medical Arts Building
C. T. DUDLEY	c/o Virginia Supply Co.	MOSS A. PLUNKETT	Shenandoah Life Building
HENRY A. DUDLEY, JR.	Boxley Building	D. W. RICHARDS	Post-Office Box 14, Salem
GEORGE DUNGLINSON, JR.	Norfolk and Western Railway Co.	J. M. RICHARDSON	c/o Richardson-Wayland Electric Corp.
LACY EDGERTON	Post-Office Box 958	J. D. RIDICK	Jefferson High School
REV. H. SPENCER EDMUNDS, D. D.	922 Third Street, S. W.	J. W. RING	416 Cornwallis Avenue
T. WOODY EVANS	Boxley Building	HARRY L. ROSENBAUM	Post-Office Box 2384
R. V. FOWLKES	Liberty Trust Building	H. FELIX SANDERS	725 Richelieu Avenue
LAWRENCE C. GARDNER	Norfolk and Western Railway Co.	R. H. SCLATER	Colonial American National Bank Building
WILLIAM F. GEOGHAN	514 Woods Avenue, S. W.	WALTER H. SCOTT	Post-Office Box 1648
C. S. GILES	c/o Giles Bros.	DR. BLANTON PAGE SEWARD	Lewis-Gale Hospital
DR. ELYBYRNE G. GILL	711 Jefferson Street, S.	DR. ANDREW D. SHAPIRO	Medical Arts Building
JOHN L. GODWIN	649 Windsor Avenue	C. D. M. SHOWALTER	Post-Office Box 2281
DR. K. D. GRAVES	Medical Arts Building	LOUIS R. SHOWALTER	Post-Office Box 2281
DR. A. M. GROSECLOSE	Medical Arts Building	DR. J. W. SIMMERMAN	902 Lafayette Boulevard
R. V. HANSEY	43 White Oak	DR. CHARLES J. SMITH	Roanoke College, Salem
ELMORE D. HEINS	American Theater Building	B. L. SNEED	c/o Virginia Bridge Co.
DAVID W. HINMAN	R. F. D. No. 1	DR. L. C. SPENGLER, JR.	Medical Arts Building
JOHN G. HOLT	404 Greenwood Road	ROBERT M. STAMPS	Post-Office Box 704
SAM M. HUDSON	c/o First National Exchange Bank	ALLEN W. STAPLES	Post-Office Box 614
DR. T. J. HUGHES	873 Riverside Drive	DR. HARRY B. STONE, JR.	Medical Arts Building
C. D. HURT	c/o Stone Printing and Manufacturing Co.	B. W. STONEBRAKER	c/o Roanoke Iron Works, Inc.
W. S. HURT	356 Allison Avenue, S. W.	FRED E. TAYLOR	131 Campbell Avenue, W.
KENNETH R. HYDE	Hotel Roanoke	JAMES E. THOMAS	14 Kirk Avenue, W.
E. F. JAMISON	Colonial American National Bank Building	DR. HUGH H. TROUT	Jefferson Hospital
I. V. JESSEE	c/o Norfolk and Western Railway Co.	FRANK P. TURNER	Norfolk and Western Railway Co.
E. R. JOHNSON	Liberty Trust Building	JAMES A. TURNER	139 Campbell Avenue, W.
LUCIUS C. JOHNSON	c/o Johnson Chevrolet Corp.	GOOCH VAUGHAN	Hotel Roanoke
DR. MARCELLUS JOHNSON, JR.	Lewis-Gale Hospital	F. H. VINES	Post-Office Box 1175
DR. A. P. JONES	Jefferson Hospital	DARNALL VINEYARD	Vinton
D. L. JORDAN	Post-Office Box 2529	GEORGE L. WADE	Post-Office Box 2320
PEYTON R. KELLER	124 Kirk Avenue, W.	AUBREY WALLACE	Post-Office Box 1006
HOMER C. KELSEY	8 Franklin Road, S. W.	DR. L. J. WALTON	Shenandoah Life Building
DR. LINWOOD D. KEYSER	Medical Arts Building	FRANK J. WELSH	c/o Rainbo Bread Co.
W. COURTNEY KING	State and City Bank Building	P. C. WHITLOCK	Covington
GEORGE A. LAYMAN	602 Greenwood Road	DR. W. R. WHITMAN	Lewis-Gale Hospital
C. G. LINDSEY	Post-Office Box 443	W. L. WILHELM	117 Norfolk Avenue, W.
R. R. MACDONALD	726 First Street, S. E.	W. P. WILTSEE	724 Avenham Avenue
J. H. MATTHEWS	First National Exchange Bank	WALTER W. WOOD	State and City Bank Building
M. S. MCCLUNG	5 College Avenue, S. Salem	T. D. WOODSON	Post-Office Box 17

The Executives Club

SVENTLEMEN:

I accept your invitation to become a member of the Executives Club.

Signed _____

Check enclosed _____ Send Statement _____

Please have your Secretary type (or print) here your name and address for Club records and National club bulletin "The Dinner Gong."

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

THE EXECUTIVES CLUB

P. O. BOX 1215
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

July 8, 1940.

b6
b7c

Dear [redacted]

Last evening the newly organized Roanoke Executives Club gathered for its first meeting at the Hotel Roanoke. Members and their ladies assembled in the ballroom made a picture that will long be remembered. The decorations were in keeping with the occasion and flowers were given to all of the ladies; everyone present seemed to enjoy the occasion thoroughly. The officers and permanent Board of Directors was named, consisting of: H. Powell Chapman, President, W. Courtney King, Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. H. Spencer Edmunds, D.D., R. V. Halsey, Kenneth R. Hyde, Robert J. Meybin, Moss A. Plunkett, Dr. W. R. Whitman, and Walter W. Wood.

Mr. Upton Close delivered his soul stirring address ~~RESHAPING OUR AMERICAN WORLD~~, and many of the members remarked that they considered this talk to be one of the most remarkable they had had the privilege of listening to in Roanoke and wished that all of the leaders of this community might have had an opportunity to have listened to it, too.

The first speaker to open the fall and winter season, which will be initiated about the first of October, will be that widely known commentator, Raymond Clapper, and invitations have been sent to a number of other outstanding speakers to appear here during the year.

The Board of Directors expressed themselves as feeling that a few other men of Roanoke and vicinity, who have been sent invitations but who have had not yet made their decision regarding the matter, should be given another opportunity to become affiliated with this new club, which promises to become one of the most popular ever to be organized in the city.

While the Board does not want to attempt to persuade anyone to join who does not feel it will be well worth while, yet they feel that you are among the number who would find the new organization offering opportunities which you would particularly appreciate.

Enclosed you will find a brochure and an acceptance card, in case the one sent previously has been misplaced. If you feel that you would like to have your name added to the roster and so be assured of the opportunity to meet Mr. Clapper at his appearance a few weeks hence, just fill out the enclosed card and mail it to Post Office Box 1215, Roanoke, Va.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/15/99 BY SP1/C4/M1

Sincerely yours,

H. Powell Chapman, President
Roanoke Executives Club

ROANOKE GAS COMPANY

121 - 123 CHURCH AVENUE, S. W.

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

July 9th, 1940

✓
X
✓
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Within the last few weeks there has been a certain [redacted]
[redacted] (initials unknown) who has organized, in
this City, a club known as "The Executives' Club."

While it may be possible that everything is open and
above board, yet, due to the fact that the first speaker,
a "Mr. Upton Close" had leanings which, in the opinion of
several of the members, were decidedly Red or, at least,
"Pink," some doubt has entered the minds of some of our
Roanoke members regarding the organizer of The Executives'
Club, and the possibility that the Club is being used for
ulterior purposes. There has already been a public dis-
cussion of this matter at a Lion's Club meeting and the
local papers have given much space to the defense of both
Mr. Close and The Executives' Club.

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Before dropping the matter as a closed subject, I would
prefer to hear from your organization, if possible, that
everything connected with the Club is as it should be.

I do not wish to be considered as a fanatic, but, at the
same time, it must be remembered that in these days and times
"anything can happen here."

b6
b7C

ENCL 6

✓ ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-15-99 BY SP1 CUC/MET

Very truly yours

FC:twb

8-14-40
certified INDEXED

Note: The data enclosed need not be returned.

65-11986-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
6 JUL 11 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FIVE	

AUG 5 RECD
SANT

RECORDED ENT:DMM
65-11986-2

August 14, 1940

[Redacted]
Roanoke Gas Company
121-123 Church Avenue, Southwest
Roanoke, Virginia

b6
b7C

Dear [Redacted]

b6
b7C

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated July 9, 1940.

It was indeed kind of you to bring this information to my attention, and your courtesy and interest in so doing are sincerely appreciated. Should you obtain any further information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with Mr. J. E. Lawler, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, 601 Richmond Trust Building, Richmond, Virginia.

With respect to your inquiry concerning the organization to which you make reference in your letter, I regret to advise that all information contained in the files of this Bureau is of a confidential nature, and by virtue of a well-established rule of the Department of Justice, I am unable to express an opinion or furnish information concerning the subject matter of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-15-99 BY SP1 CLK/MJ
John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
cc: Richmond - copies of incoming attached
MAILED

★ AUG 15 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PFK:IS

November 4, 1941

TO:

b6
b7C

RE: JOSEPH WASHINGTON HALL, alias
UPTON CLOSE

Reference is made to your note number 8/20, dated October 7, 1941, requesting information regarding the above individual.

It is reported that in November, 1923, Hall lectured in Seattle, Washington. He was described as being a deep student of Chinese affairs. He was said to be a journalist who had spent many years in China. During the then recent revolutions he reportedly occupied a high place in the Councils of General Wu Pei-Fu, called "China's Greatest Soldier." In his lecture he reportedly stated "The so-called Republic of China is a mockery. The whole trend of China is toward syndicalism.... Occupational representation instead of geographical -- that is the goal toward which China is constantly approaching." He also allegedly stated that Japan will in time sink back to her "rightful place" as a fifth or sixth power in the world and that the people of Japan will be happier because of it.

(61-30-153)

It is reported that commencing in 1925 Hall transported a Chinese girl from China through Continental Europe and into the United States and then transported her through various states in this country. During this time he allegedly had immoral relations with the Chinese girl, so that she later became pregnant and had an operation performed because of Hall's relations with her. The case was not prosecuted because Hall provided transportation back to China for the Chinese girl. (31-32632).

It is reported that Hall, as Upton Close, was one of the speakers at the Student Congress against War held at the University of Chicago, December 28-29, 1932. This organization was reportedly organized and controlled by the Communist International. (61-7497-58 J. B. Matthews in "Odyssey of a Fellow Traveler").

It is reported that Upton Close has been in contact with a person alleged to be pro-German. These contacts have been reported as early as October, 1938. (61-7595-20).

An editorial which appeared in the May 24, 1940, issue of the Chattanooga News-Free Press, read as follows:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-07-2006 BY 60324AUCBAW/CPB/RDS

CC: Mr. Ladd

CC: Mr. Foxworth, New York

*Wm Ladd's office
11/6/41*

DJ

b6
b7C

TO:

"Close Should Be Closed"

"In times when there is no national emergency, we believe in the American principle of freedom of speech. We have listened in enjoyment to Norman Thomas, to Earl Browder and various super-liberals in days past without approving a word they uttered. Wednesday night, a man named Upton Close—or at least whose 'nom de guerre' is Upton Close—delivered an address to a Chattanooga Executive Club that could have been written by Mr. Hitler himself. He presented some truths regarding rotten conditions that have prevailed in England and France and elaborated on them with a Hans Christian Andersen skill into some amazing and ridiculous but entertaining ramifications tending to prove his basic contention that the Germans are a superior race and should be given the task of building and bossing a Pan-European state. These are perilous days. Mr. Close's mouth should be placed in the condition indicated by his name." (65-11986-1).

The May 30, 1940, issue of the Yorkville Enquirer of York, South Carolina, reported on the speech of Upton Close before the Charlotte, North Carolina, Executive Club. This article indicated that Close was at that time Associate Editor of Time Magazine. The main theme of his speech was that the United States has "been a sucker long enough." In his speech Close presented alleged facts indicating that the other countries played the United States for a "sucker" during the first World War and manipulated things so that this country had to finance a large portion of the expense of the war. (65-11986-1).

A leaflet distributed by the Executive Club of Roanoke, Virginia, dated July, 1940, announced that Upton Close was to speak before the Club on July 1, 1940. The leaflet indicated that Close received his "nom de plume" while serving in the American Intelligence Service in China. The leaflet stated that "it was a code identity phrased and came from his habit of 'being up close' to the fighting line." The leaflet also indicated that Close has lived and traveled all over Europe and Asia and is the author of seven books and over a thousand magazine articles. It ranked him among the top few American speakers of today. (65-11986-2).

Information has been received from one of the members of the Roanoke, Virginia, Executive Club that in the opinion of several of the members of the Club, Upton Close had leanings which "were decidedly Red or at least Pink." This source felt that there is some possibility that the Executive Club was being used for ulterior purposes. (65-11986-2).

TO:

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b7c

In the latter part of 1940, a list of persons suspected of being members of the Communist Party because of their past actions was received. This list includes the name of Upton Close and indicates that he conducts "tours of Russia." (61-7559-10-12).

Information has been received that Upton Close was to be on the spiritual forces committee of the Florida Institute of Public Affairs which was to be formed during the latter part of 1940 or the early part of 1941 for the purpose of discussing national and international affairs, and utilizing the press and radio in urging as wide an audience as possible in the dissemination of culture. The entire project was abandoned in 1941. The secretary of the organizer of the Institute reportedly felt that Close was a Nazi agent. (100-3835-15, Miles M. Goldberg, Anti-Defamation League).

A list of pro-Nazi Fascist and Pacifist suspects for the United States was received in April, 1941. The list included the name of Upton Close and indicated that he was the author of an anti-British article which appeared in the "Living Age." (65-11734-53x, British Censorship).

Information is available that Close has written the following books among others:

Challenge, Behind the Face of Japan
Eminent Asians

The February, 1940, issue of the Readers Digest contained an article entitled "The Lecture Business," which was a condensation of the original article by Close which appeared in the Saturday Review of Literature. The April, 1939, issue of the Readers Digest contained an article entitled "The Ravemers Will Get You," which was a condensation of an article by Close which appeared in the April, 1939, issue of the American Mercury entitled "The T-Men Will Get You." (94-3-4-221-76 — 65-4306-3 — 94-3-4-221-62).

b6
b7C

No. S/20

October 7, 1941.

We shall be glad to receive any information available concerning Joseph Washington Hall, who writes and broadcasts under the name of Upton Close.

He is at present broadcasting on Japanese affairs on Sundays, over an N.B.C. network.

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-07-2006 BY 60324AUCBAW/CPB/RDS

FROM

OCT 3 1941



Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington,

D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-15-99 BY SP1 CLK/mf.

December 8, 1941.

National Broadcasting Corporation.

New York City.

Gentlemen

War with Japan has come at last, as we long ago predicted it would, initiated by a treacherous surprise attack by the Jap forces on the United States. Yesterday the people of this country suddenly were aroused from their lethargy by startling news which even now, before all details are known, must be interpreted as a serious set-back for us.

And yet, at intervals yesterday afternoon and evening we were regaled by your Japanese apologist Upton Close, with a recital of Far Eastern developments tinged with his particular brand of interpretation. On January 23, 1941 this man appeared on the Peoria People's Forum, indulging in an attack on the administration's foreign policy, the Lend-Lease Bill, etc., deavoring in this adroit fashion, apparently, to play down Japanese aggression and the danger to the United States from the totalitarian menace.

Just what do you mean, therefore, in keeping such a man on the wire at this critical time? Perhaps you might ~~well~~ to make an explanation. This is not a question of "free speech" any longer, since the record of past Japanese aggressions is open for all the world to read.

Cordially,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-5-99 BY SP1 CLK/JW

02 DEBT OF 202106

T. B. 1.

Josef Koncav,

• 139 • *the necny.*

RECEIPTS

ENTERPRISE

Copy for -

FBI, Washington, D.C.

RECORDED
INDEXED

19964

DEC 22 1941

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SCHILLER

PER
JEN:JRB

January 6, 1942

10:08AM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. Tamm
MR. LADD

At this time [redacted] of the National Broadcasting Company telephoned me from New York City and stated that he understood from information given him by his West Coast office that the Bureau has been checking on Upton Close. [redacted] stated that Close is their Far Eastern commentator at San Francisco and that he would like to know what is what so that he could get rid of Close if such action is warranted. [redacted] also remarked that Military Intelligence had asked for the script used by Close on a couple of occasions although he did not believe that this meant anything.

b6
b7c

I told [redacted] that I would check into this immediately and that if there should be anything wrong, I would call him back.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

9 JAN 9 1942
38 266
140 P

12 C. O.
DATE 16-42
BY 13

RECORDED
INDEXED
m/s

65-11986-5
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
12 JAN 7 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/5/99 BY SP1 CLK/HGT

DML:68

JANUARY 7, 1942

BY WESTERN UNION

b6
b7C

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.
RCA BUILDING
RADIO CITY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

REFERENCE YOUR CALL OF YESTERDAY I DESIRE ADVISE A CHECK REVEALS NO
INVESTIGATION BY FBI OF UPTON CLOSE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/15/99 BY SP1 CLK/MT

Initiated in Director's Office

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Gordon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Rondon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Name _____
Miss Gandy _____

8 JAN 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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134 AUG 9 1960
WESTERN UNION

RECORDED

65-871986-6

JAN 7 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1:45 PM 2/11/88

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

DML:GS

January 6, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

With reference to your inquiry concerning any investigation being conducted relative to Joseph Washington Hall, alias Upton Close, Far Eastern Commentator for the National Broadcasting Company at San Francisco, I desire to advise that I telephonically contacted SAC Pieper and ascertained that they are not and have not conducted any investigation of Close.

A check of the Bureau files reveals that there is a summary memorandum contained therein indicating his possible radical leanings. This file is attached with the summary memorandum appropriately marked.

There is no indication in the Bureau files that any investigation is being conducted of Close.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd
D. M. Ladd

Attachment

Send [redacted]
a wire that we are not
investigating Close.

RECORDED

8 JAN 20 1942

65-11986-7

4 JAN 8 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-15-91 BY SP1 CLK/JM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. T. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room b6 _____
Mr. [unclear] b7C _____
Miss Graham _____
Miss Gandy _____

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

CHC:mm

January 6, 1942

Received: 1:00 PM

Transcribed: 2:45 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mrs. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quince Tamm _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Candy _____

SAC Pieper of the San Francisco Office telephonically advised me that he had been talking to you and had been disconnected; that he wished to advise me that they had never conducted any investigation with regard to Upton

Close

Respectfully,

C. H. Carson

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-15-99 BY SP1 CLK/JET

RECORDED

65-11986-8

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6 JAN 7 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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8 JAN 15 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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NEW YORK NY VIA RCA JAN 7 502P 100-10000

J EDGAR HOOVER

FBI WASHINGTONDC

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ANSWER RE CLOSE

b6
b7C

535P

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DATE 4/17/99 BY 0001/00/00

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134 AUG 9 1980

1/21/68 JAN 28 1942 ✓

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65-11986-9

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 JAN 15 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

b6
b7C

February 3, 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear [redacted]

Here is a copy of the report from [redacted] of Vanderbilt University on the Upton Close broadcasts concerning which I spoke to you today. It is my understanding that the radio division of War Department turned a copy of this report over to G-2. I don't know whether G-2 has taken it up with your organization. This looks like a case for investigation rather than action by censorship.

Sincerely

b6
b7C

Enc.

1 ENCL
JAN
2-12-42 FTS
to [redacted]
[redacted]

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/26/00 BY SP1 CLK/sel

REC'D
INDEXED

65-11986-10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
1 FEB 20 1942	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

COPY

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Nashville, Tennessee

Political Science Department

January 9, 1942

[Redacted]
Public Relations Department
Radio Division
The War Department
Washington, D. C.

b6
b7C

Dear [Redacted]

In accordance with our recent conversation, I am submitting herewith my views regarding Mr. Upton Close.

I followed his broadcasts for some two months during the summer and autumn and gained a deepening impression that he was working in Japan's interests. For months he suggested to us, deftly but effectively, that we should let Japan have her way in the Far East. On July 20, he commended Great Britain for looking at things "rationally" in 1931, when Japan took Manchuria, and added that now "when there is the least good to be done we become the most excited." On July 27, he deplored the stoppage of commerce with Japan's war machine as "this sudden economic offensive of ours." On five successive Sundays, beginning with July 20, he suggested that Japan's next job was to take all Siberia, back to Lake Baikal, which would, of course, enable Japan to throttle China from the rear.

Then when Japan struck at us, suddenly and treacherously, Mr. Close simply refused to admit that Japan had done it. For hours after the attack on Hawaii he made all manner of excuses for Japan to a vast and anxious national audience, as follows: first, that a Japanese official in San Francisco was completely surprised and that perhaps the attack was a complete surprise to the Foreign Office and Government in Tokyo. "That may prove to be true", he said with great emphasis, and argued that "if the attack had been made in such force as to destroy the American naval base, then we might believe that the Japanese Government was behind it," but it was not a serious attack.

After 1st attack
file #

His other explanations were: second that German vessels in the Pacific had done it; third that "a small portion of the Japanese Navy had gone fanatic;" fourth that it had been done by the Japanese moderates to shock the Japanese government into completely reversing its course; and fifth that it might be a violent reaction to a too great loss of face caused by Secretary

Hull's final statement of principles to the Japanese. He called attention to the fact that "Mr. Hull burst out in true Tennessee language" earlier in the day, suggested that "it is possible that the Japanese completely lost face and descended to the status of being willing to engage in a violent brawl as a result of this answer...", and left the strong implication that the attack had come because Secretary Hull had been too rough with the Japanese. Over and over Mr. Close asked us to suspend judgment on Japan and wait for a statement from Ambassador Nomura. (The foregoing analysis was made from a transcription of his remarks.)

Actually our government's note of November 26 to Japan was a calm but firm statement of our position, one of which we will be proud, far into the future.

I do not see how this performance could have been made by anyone who was not very anxious to defend Japan. I have not followed his broadcasts regularly since Pearl Harbor, but I think you will find in each of them some subtle suggestion that Russia or Britain is not to be trusted. I doubt that there will be anything constructive in his broadcasts and feel sure that there will be insinuations tending to split us from our Allies and, perhaps, to cast doubt upon the efficiency of our own war effort. Some years ago Mr. Close gave a series of broadcasts during one of the crises in Europe, in which he displayed a doubt that he will be able to talk in the future without making trouble, subtly for the time being, but effectively. Needless to say the total effect upon the minds of his huge audience may be of considerable importance.

b6
b7C

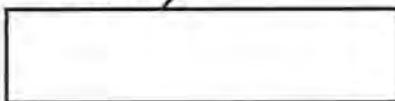
I ought to say frankly that I do not like the man's personality any better than his principles, but I feel sure that my reaction is not a unique one. I noticed that the boys at WSM reacted very strongly against his talks and I have had comments from others that there is something queer about him.

I was delighted to have a good talk with you and to see your family while I was in Washington.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

(signed)



~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 60324auchaw/rs/rds
ON 06-18-2007

Info. not classified per OGA letter dated 6/11/07

FJS:AJB

February 17, 1942

RECORDED

65-11986-10

DATE: 11-08-2006

CLASSIFIED BY 60324AUCBAW/CPB/RDS b6

DECLASSIFY ON: 25Y 3.3(1) b7C

11-08-2031

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

MR. WENDELL BERKE

Transmitted herewith for your consideration are copies of a letter dated January 9, 1942, addressed to [redacted] Public Relations Department, Radio Division, War Department, Washington, D. C., by [redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, and which was forwarded to this Bureau by the office of the Coordinator of Information. (S) (U)

It is requested that you advise whether the facts as stated by [redacted] would constitute the violation of any statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, with particular reference to the Sedition Statute, Section 33, Title 50.

I have informed the office of the Coordinator of Information of this reference. (S) (U)

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Enclosures



~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED BY SP/CLK/sd
DECLASSIFY ON 25Y 3.3(1)

9/26/00

RECORDED

FJS:JEA
3-5-42
65-11986-11

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WENDELL BERGE

RE: UPTON CLOSE

With reference to your memorandum dated February 24, 1942, I am enclosing herewith a summary of the information available concerning the above captioned individual.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

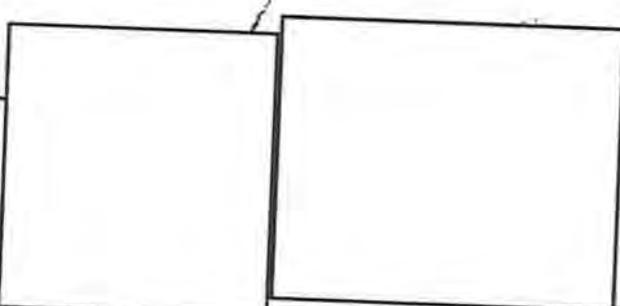
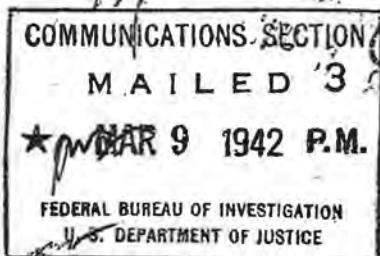
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b7C

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SP1 CLK/jwt

MR. 9 210 PH 42
RECEIVED-DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 10 1942
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen 7 MAR 1 7 1942 214
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Headon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Candy _____



~~SECRET~~

b6
b7c

FJS:AJB

February 17, 1942

DECLASSIFIED BY 60324auchaw/rs/rds
ON 06-18-2007

~~PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL~~

Info. is not classified per OGA letter dated
6/11/07

Colonel William J. Donovan
Coordinator of Information
25th and P Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

~~(S)~~ (U)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-17-07 BY SP/CLK~~

Dear Bill:

Reference is made to a letter from your office over
the signature of [redacted], dated February 3, 1942,
directed to [redacted] by this Bureau, which enclosed a
letter directed to [redacted] Public Relations Depart-
ment, Radio Division, the War Department dated January 9,
1942, from [redacted] Nashville, Tennessee. ~~(S)~~ (U)

This matter has been referred to the Criminal
Division of the Department of Justice for their opinion as
to whether or not the facts stated constitute a violation of
any statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this
Bureau.

Sincerely,

DATE: 11-08-2006
CLASSIFIED BY 60324aUCBAW/CPB/RDS
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1.3(1)
11-08-2001

44493

J. Edgar Hoover
RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-11986-12

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
12 FEB 19, 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

C

JK

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

~~BY SPECIAL
MESSAGE~~

9 FEB 28 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3

FEB 17 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED BY *Spicer/Se*
DECLASSIFY ON 25X (1)
9/26/00

GCB:ef

February 4, 1942

MR. LADD

Re: UPTON CLOSE

There is attached hereto a copy of a letter written to the War Department by [redacted] of Vanderbilt University summarizing his views of Upton Close's activities with reference to the Japanese.

This was handed to the writer by [redacted] of the State Department for the writer's information.

b6
b7C

Respectfully,

[redacted]

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SP/CLK/fjt

Mr. Tolson _____

Mr. E. A. Tamm _____

Mr. Clegg _____

Mr. Foxworth _____

Mr. Glavin _____

Mr. Ladd _____

Mr. Nichols _____

Mr. Rosen _____

Mr. Carson _____

Mr. Drayton _____

Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

Mr. Hendon _____

Mr. Tracy _____

Miss Gandy _____

[Signature]
ELE COPY

65-11986-13

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



1
GCB:ef

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

February 4, 1942

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Herbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD *Q*

Re: UPTON CLOSE

There is attached hereto a copy of a letter written to the War Department by [redacted] of Vanderbilt University summarizing his views of Upton Close's activities with reference to the Japanese.

This was handed to the writer by [redacted] of the State Department for the writer's information.

b6
b7C

Respectfully,

W.P.

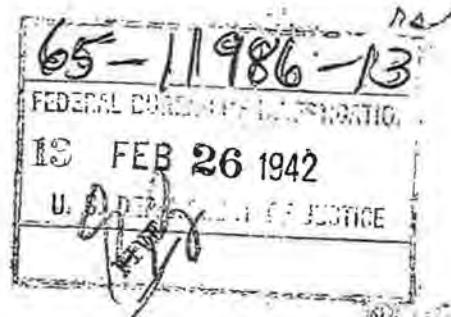
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DATE 4-14-99 BY SPI CUY/MS

9 MAR 5 1942

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SP1 OUK/MT

65-11986-14

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THE RANDOLPH MILLS, INC.
Cotton Fabrics
Franklinville, N. C.

March 9, 1942

Senator Claude Pepper,
U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Several months ago Upton ⁰Close made one of the most abusive speeches in Greensboro, N. C., attacking the administration and all others advocating preparedness that I have listened to.

On Sunday December 7th, 1941 at the very hour that Japan was attacking Pearl harbor he was making a pro Japanese speech over a national hook up of the National Broadcasting System from San Francisco, Cal., and even on yesterday Sunday March 8th at 1:00 P.M. he was telling the American people over the same hook up that the war with Japan wasn't necessary. He is vicious and I don't see why our Government permits snakes of his type to continue to run free.

K
Very truly yours,

S/ John W. Clark,

JWC:Mc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SPI CLK/AFJ
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✓ 3/18 J.W.
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EX-3

65-11986-14

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5 MAR 16 1942	
FBI - WILMINGTON	

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3/20/42
ppg

United States Senate

Washington, D. C.

March 13, 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

In Re: John W. Clark
Franklinville, N.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the attached communication for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with if possible.

Please reply direct to the
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
writer. HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 16-99 BY SP1 CLK/AMT

Yours truly,

Claude Pepper

U. S. S.

ack rec
3/20/42
785

GPO 16-8814

FJS:WMJ
65-11986-14

March 20, 1942

RECORDED

Honorable Claude Pepper
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I was glad to receive your letter of March 13, 1942, and its enclosure, and have noted with considerable interest the content of the letter directed to you by John W. Clark on March 9, 1942.

It was indeed kind of you to forward me this information, and I want you to know that I deeply appreciate your courtesy and interest in so doing. In accordance with your request, I have acknowledged Mr. Clark's communication.

The enclosure which you forwarded with your letter is being returned to you herewith.

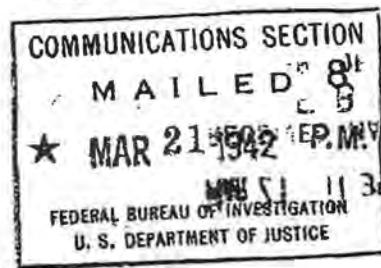
Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SP1 CLK/MF

23
7 MAR 26 1942



72

FJS:WMJ
65-11986-14

March 20, 1942

91

Mr. John W. Clark
President and Treasurer
The Randolph Mills, Incorporated
Franklinville, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Clark:

Please be advised that your letter dated March 9, 1942, addressed to Senator Claude Pepper, United States Senate, Washington, D. C., was referred to this Bureau by the Senator.

The content of your letter has been carefully noted, and is being made a matter of official record in the files of this Bureau. I want you to know that the information contained in your letter will be afforded appropriate consideration by this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-98 BY SP/CLK/MF

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
★ MAR 23 1942 P.M.
1053
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

25 Mar 23 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Seattle, Washington
April 10, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: UPTON CLOSE - Internal Security (J)

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter dated April 5, 1942 addressed to this office by [redacted] of Dayton, Washington concerning UPTON CLOSE whom she has heard deliver several radio broadcasts.

According to [redacted] it appears to her that many of CLOSE's remarks are unpatriotic and seditious. Further, she feels that no one should be permitted to say that the United States caused the present War with Japan because of the Exclusion Act of 1924.

[redacted] further relates that she believes that CLOSE is trying to cause confusion on the subject by raising the issue of the Yellow Peril and that CLOSE is working against the best interests of the United States and its war effort.

This office has no previous record on UPTON CLOSE and this information is being forwarded to you as of possible interest in view of the allegations made concerning the statements being made by a radio commentator.

Very truly yours,

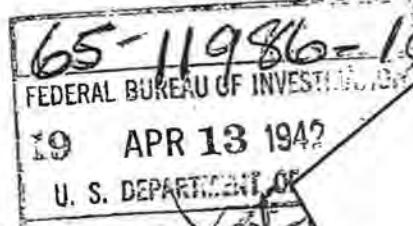
b6
b7c

H. B. Fletcher
H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/16/99 BY SP1 CLK/HM

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100-6902

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APR 25 RECEIVED
8 APR 27 1942
APR 20 RECD

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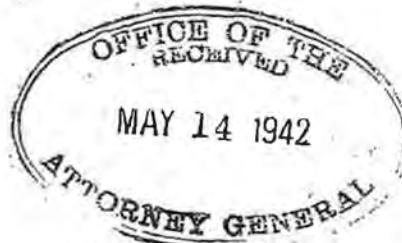
4/17/91

EX-8

UPTON CLOSE



VALHALLA, N.Y.
N.B.C.
Hollywood



PHONE GLADSTONE 3169
(WHITE PLAINS EXCHANGE — IN
NEW YORK CITY CALL OPERATOR)

May 13, 1942

Attorney General Francis Biddle
Office of the Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-07-2006 BY 60324AUCBAW/CPB/RDS

Dear Sir:

May I call your attention to the copy of the letter I have this morning sent to Mr. R. D. Hood of the Los Angeles office of the F.B.I. I have had my time imposed upon so frequently by F.B.I. agents who were investigating someone else and asked my help that it seems to me that when I am myself to receive the honor I should be permitted to extend the same cooperation.

I think it is a very fine thing for the Department of Justice to investigate all public speakers and opinion molders, but I do not think it is American to do so on an impartial basis and I would like to know just who it is who instigates investigations. I trust that those speakers who are discovered to be subsisting from the funds of so-called friendly nations are as carefully listed by the F.B.I. as those who do not receive such outside funds. We never know, these days, who is going to be our enemy next.

With highest respects, I remain

Sincerely,

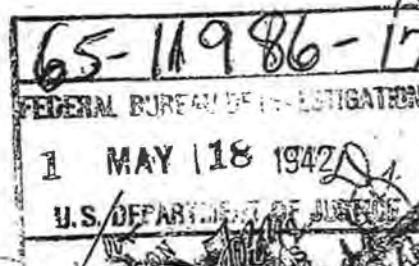
James Washington Hall
Upton Close

UC/jb

RECORDED & INDEXED

MEM

EX-5



Copy

N.B.C.
Hollywood

May 12, 1942

Mr. R. V. Hood
Special Agent in Charge of Los Angeles Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Dept. of Justice
Los Angeles

Dear Mr. Hood:

Thanks for your courtesy in answering my phone call. I shall be very glad to welcome your agent at my office and home. I shall be very glad to introduce him to my work of the past thirty years of trying to prepare Americans for their job in the Pacific. I shall be very glad to elucidate my conceptions of humanitarianism and Americanism. I even wish that I could inculcate some of these conceptions into the good men of your organization as well as all other bureaus of my government.

I should very much like to question you, if that were possible, to find out just what procedure is followed by certain persons who, for personal reasons or for reasons of their own selfish ~~reasons~~, do not like the opinions of other persons and proceed to get such other persons investigated by your great organization. I would like very much to know what charges have to be brought and how much evidence has to be presented to back them up before your organization can be put on the hunt, so to speak. I would like to know whether merely a prominent name is all that is necessary, or whether the suggestion for investigation must come from officials above a certain rank--or just what the procedure and story, generally speaking, is.

I am sending a copy of this to Attorney General Francis Biddle at Washington.

With the most cordial cooperation, always available and offered to you, I remain

Very respectfully and sincerely,

George Washington Hall
Upton Close

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SP7 CLK/mj

UC/jb
cc: Attorney General Francis Biddle

65-11986-17

Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

WEG:DM
100-0

May 8, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: UPTON CLOSE;
INTERNAL SECURITY

Mr. George ~~E~~ Brett, Jr., President of the Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York City, while being contacted on other official business, stated that his Editor-in-Chief, Mr. P. A. Knowlton had recently returned from the Pacific Coast and had talked to UPTON CLOSE a radio commentator on the Pacific Coast, whose statements would probably be of interest to this office.

Mr. Brett stated that Mr. Knowlton had told him of numerous seditious statements that Mr. CLOSE had made, and further that Mr. CLOSE had received letters of commendation from General PHILIPSON of the United States Army and several other prominent people.

At the suggestion of Mr. Brett a statement was taken from Mr. Knowlton and reduced to writing, two copies of which are attached herewith.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SP1 CLK/RET
COPIES DESTROYED

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

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Encs. (2) U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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JUN 2 REC'D.
MAY 22 REC'D.
MAY 19 REC'D.

RECEIVED
9 JUN 1942

The following statement was taken from Mr. Knowlton, with his consent and at the suggestion of Mr. George P. Brett, Jr., President of The Macmillan Company, on March 10, 1942, at 4:00 P. M. There were present [redacted] special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; Philip A. Knowlton, editor-in-chief of the Educational Department of The Macmillan Company; Mr. Brett, Jr.; and [redacted] as recorder.

Mr. Knowlton: So far as I know, Close made no statements to me that he has not made over the radio. I simply got, in a moment of a good deal of personal venom on his part, an extra concentrated dose of the sort of preaching that he has been making over the radio repeatedly on the Pacific Coast, and apparently the Pacific Coast people are eating it up. b6 b7C

Mr. Brett: I have the impression that he told you a few things that could not be told over the radio.

Mr. Knowlton: Close is working on the Pacific Coast as the chief adviser on the Far East to the President of the National Broadcasting Company. He is a paid employee of the N.B.C., for which he is serving on the Pacific Coast as a news commentator, and has recently had one of his programs taken over on a commercial basis (I think by some oil company), so that he is broadcasting both with and without a sponsor. He is "in the money" and prosperous, much in demand as a speaker at various types of teachers' conventions. At the time that I was there he cited various engagements for which he was paid fees of several hundred dollars each, ranging from the State of Texas to the State of Washington. I saw no indications whatever of any hope that this country would lose the war, or of any hope that the Japs would win, or anything of that sort. That is, I saw nothing that is inconsistent with the type of patriotism that one could have attributed to a member of the America First committee if you take their protestations at their face value. His whole attitude could be characterized as isolationism carried on into the present age, with devotion to the American cause but with a very bitter discontent with our leadership, both political and military, and with great bitterness against the British. I saw no evidence and got no impression that the man was disloyal to his own idea of what this country should have. He expressed the following views, and as far as I remember these have been expressed by him repeatedly in broadcasts heard not only on the Pacific Coast but also all over the country:

1. - Close feels and states that we were driven into this war very foolishly and with ignorance of what would happen on the part of the present leadership of the country. He obviously regrets that we undertook the war, in the sense of the various lease-lend things, etc., before we were actually attacked. That is, he interprets this war as one that we entered, rather than one that was inflicted upon us, because he emphasizes our active function prior to Pearl Harbor rather than accepting an interpretation that the war began at Pearl Harbor.

2. - Close states that the British Empire is dead and doesn't know it, that its leadership is terrible, and that our President is just a stooge for Churchill. He comments very bitterly on the stupidity, as he states it, and military inefficiency of both Great Britain and the United States, as he puts it, because of the terrific series of defeats that we have suffered in the last three and a half weeks.

3. - He says that the whole idea of United Nations is bunk which is being thrust upon a people that are merely being forced to accept it and are not in a position to question it.

4. - He referred to alleged information with reference to convoys that were going across the Pacific that had been broadcast to by radio from the Japanese in English, and told that they were going to bomb them, and they (the Japs) had bombed them on time and the convoys had been unable to ward them off because they had been supplied with 20-year-old ammunition which the people who gave it to them knew wouldn't go off when they shot.

5. - More than that, he showed me a table full of fan mail which he claimed was just a one-day batch (he says he gets three or four hundred letters a day), and told me to open a few of the letters at random. I did so. Among them were two or three from surprisingly high Army and Navy officials. (The letters had obviously not been opened previously.) I'm sorry that I don't recall their names. One was a Brigadier General and wrote from Washington. There was a Commander in the Navy, and Close himself cited commanding letters from persons at or near the top in Army circles.

Mr. Brett: By name?

Mr. Knowlton: I am strongly under the impression that he named General Marshall, but I don't want to state that definitely. It is my recollection that he indicated receipt of letters approving his broadcasts in their main tenor from officials as high as that, and I think that name was mentioned.

Mr. Brett: You mentioned that name to me right after you had seen him that night. Can you possibly remember the name of the Brigadier General?

Mr. Knowlton: I cannot. I have forgotten it so completely that I couldn't pick it out of a list of ten names that you might show me.

Mr. Brett: You don't remember what part of the country he was from?

Mr. Knowlton: All I remember is that the letter was written in Washington.

[redacted] Were the letters picked by you at random?

Mr. Knowlton: Yes, right from the top. He told me to open three or four, and I did. I don't believe any hocus-pocus could have existed. He went on to say that he felt this country's misconduct of the war was so gross that in all probability the people on the Pacific Coast would be fighting for their lives within a few months. In other words, it seemed to me that the whole tenor of his remarks, which I understand is the same as the tenor of his broadcasts, was in essence exactly what the President objected to so vigorously in his last Fireside Talk. He is the critic and the rumor-monger that the country objects to. -- Later I went down to Los Angeles, where I found Close in charge of the government listening post because of his knowledge of Far Eastern affairs, apparently working in closest harmony with the General Staff in Washington, submitting to censorship, obeying Army rules or directions as to what could be released to the radio and what could not. Apparently the government or certain departments of the government have the greatest confidence in his fundamental loyalty to the country, for they do use him -- and he is apparently not betraying that trust -- as the person to supervise this radio listening post. He is evidently doing this to the government's satisfaction, so that although I was impressed in San Francisco with the idea that here is a man who is so badly off the reservation, however patriotic he may be according to his lights, that I wondered whether he would be allowed to continue or not, when I got to Los Angeles I said to myself, "Well, there is every evidence that here is a man who is known to be a bitter critic of the administration but to whom the administration is giving a lot of rope for his activities." I found him in a much better humor when I saw him at Los Angeles, and he explained that his apparent animosity had been due to family matters.

[redacted] Did he in any private conversations with you go a little further in the same tenor in which he speaks over the radio?

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Mr. Knowlton: No. As I have said, it is the kind of bitter vein that a man would use if he really believed that the country is being mismanaged.

Mr. Brett: Did he give you any impression that he was pioneering for a cause?

Mr. Knowlton: I can't say that he did.

Mr. Brett: Did he make any statement to you that he was going to accomplish some specific purpose by January 1, 1943? You told me that evening that he said he was going to have Roosevelt's policies backed off the map by January 1, 1943.

Mr. Knowlton: I took the position, as I remember it, that by January 1, 1943, we would know a lot more about Close's standing.

Mr. Brett: You reported to me that he had bragged to you that he was going to have his point of view prevail and Roosevelt's point of view out the window by January 1, 1943.

Mr. Knowlton: I do remember one thing. He did insist that the country was coming around to this viewpoint, and I made some statements to him about next January which were preparatory to suggesting that we put off certain publications. He interrupted me and said, "By next January you'll find that my opinions are the popular ones, that they will prevail; that by next January we will be hearing no more about this United Nations business, that the country will be ready to listen to reason and that you will be heroes and not villains for playing along with me." The significance of the January date is that I had mentioned it to him as the month in which we publish books, and he seized upon that as that time in the future which I was previously talking about, by which time he insisted that this, what I call war-time-America-First, point of view of his would prevail and be popular all over the country.

Mr. Brett: You feel that he is campaigning for his ideals?

Mr. Knowlton: I certainly do.

Mr. Brett: In the hope of selling those ideals to America as opposed to the ideals that the President is trying to sell?

Mr. Knowlton: I certainly do, and he would be the first person to say so.

[redacted] Does he attribute his viewpoints to patriotism, or does he impress you as having some ulterior motive?

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Mr. Knowlton: I don't think it is an either/or proposition. He attributes them in what he says solely to patriotism, but Close is a very vain and bigoted exhibitionist. He knows a tremendous amount about the Far East, but he has had some very unpleasant experiences with British diplomats and so he detests the British. He hates the whole idea of empire, too. In fact, he told me that very shortly the world would recognize that the whole idea of empires is dead. He also commented on the stupidity of Churchill in not offering relative freedom or dominion status to India, and incidentally mentioned the fact that he, Close, is a personal friend of Mahatma Gandhi, and he stressed that portion of his philosophy which objects to the subjugation, even for purposes of social improvement, of any people by any other people. -- His ulterior motives, I suppose, are perfectly evident. He was in some financial straits a few months ago, when he was out of favor with the broadcasting people. Now he is back in favor with them and is "in the money," and he is the sort of man who becomes arrogant when he is so situated. It happens that the kind of doctrine which is conspicuous and radical is the kind that commands attention and apparently what the N.B.C. and a lot of teachers' institutes are willing to pay for. I think the only commercialism of which there is any indication is the fact that that particular activity pays him well.

Mr. Brett: Would you will be willing to go a step farther and agree that if his bread was buttered better on the other side his patriotism would take the angle of talking about another side than this?

Mr. Knowlton: No, frankly, I don't think that is true at all. I think he has certain misguided convictions and that he is having a swell time airing those convictions, broadcasting with reference to a lot of his pet hates at a time when doing so comes dangerously close to coming within the governmental taboo.

[redacted] Do you recall the tenor of these letters that you read out there? Were they commanding his broadcasts?

Mr. Knowlton: They were commanding his broadcasts, and they were highly critical of the government's conduct of the war. b6 b7C

[redacted] Were they written in regard to one particular broadcast? Did they mention one particular subject in any way?

Mr. Knowlton: As I recall it they referred to different broadcasts. The tenor of those letters was just such as you would have expected of a person who was a devoted follower of Wheeler and Nye and Lindbergh prior to our entrance into this war. Close was formerly a member of the isolationist group, and now that we are in the war he is harping on it harder.

[redacted] Do you recall any statements he might have made in regard to President Roosevelt's foreign policy?

Mr. Knowlton: The only specific thing I remember at the moment is the point I mentioned about the ancient ammunition. Then he spoke in frank terms of what he called the tragic inefficiency of the combined forces to stop the Japanese in their sweep of the southwestern Pacific, but I am pretty sure he did not make any other specific criticisms. The most bitter thing that he said about our own President was calling him a stooge for Churchill, whom he described in no flattering terms. b6 b7C

[redacted] Has he written anything that might come close to being seditious in character?

Mr. Brett: Not that I know of. Our position was this: We have had a contract for a book by this man in the Educational Department, and up until about February 20th, although we knew what kind of man we were dealing with in general terms, we saw no reason not to go right ahead with publication.

Mr. Knowlton: Yes, because the manuscript that we were going to publish with a minimum of editing had been left on the level of perfect propriety.

Mr. Brett: And then when we were in San Francisco one of our men out there started telling us stories about Upton Close, and I having known of his isolationist point of view, of his backing of [redacted] etc., became scared that our Educational Editorial Department was going to come out with a book by a man who probably would be or ought to be in jail about the time it would be published. So Knowlton saw him, and I became very much excited about it. I want to know whether the United States Government is going to clamp down on this

man, or whether they are going to let him go on.

[redacted] (to Mr. Brett): You have never had any personal conversations with him?

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Mr. Brett: No.

[redacted] Are there any other members of your Company on the Pacific Coast who have had more dealings with him?

Mr. Knowlton: No. I think I've had more dealings with Close than anyone else in the Company. He does occasionally see both our trade man, Louis Freedman, and our Pacific Coast manager, John Beers, but just about casual matters.

[redacted] Do you know what station he broadcasts from?

Mr. Knowlton: It is one of the big stations, either WJZ or WEAF, on Sunday mornings, when he can be heard here.

[redacted] Do you know what Pacific Coast station his program originates from?

Mr. Knowlton: N.B.C. Hollywood or San Francisco. Now he is more in Hollywood than he is in San Francisco.

[redacted] Your conversations with him were when?

Mr. Knowlton: They were on February 24th in San Francisco, and on the following Monday, March 2nd, in Los Angeles. In the course of two hours with him in Los Angeles I didn't see or hear a thing to which anyone could take exception. There I saw evidence of his leadership in connection with the listening-post activities. Incidentally, I forgot to say that he told me, if I have this thing rightly, that he was also co-operating intimately with the government in connection with the censoring of Far Eastern news, that apparently they consult him about what it is safe and advisable to publish vs. what it is not.

[redacted] Did he boast to you about the hold he had on people's opinion out there?

Mr. Knowlton: Yes.

[redacted] Did he intimate that he could sway their opinion one way or the other?

Mr. Knowlton: He merely intimated that his opinion would be justified by the facts.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-5532

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 5/27/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/1, 2, 5-7, 12, 19, 22/42	REPORT MADE BY LH
TITLE UPTON CLOSE with alias Josef Washington Hall	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY		

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject was born in Kelso, Washington, served as Intelligence Officer for State Dept. during World War I in China; traveled in China, Japan, Manchuria and the South Seas, returning to America in 1923. Subsequently was professor of Asiatic Culture at the University of Washington and annually visited the Far East for many years thereafter. Subject has written a number of books and articles based on his knowledge of the Orient and Pacific. He is presently broadcasting on NBC each Sunday sponsored by the Signal Oil Company. Scripts of subject's broadcasts since December 7, 1941 reviewed indicates subject has been warning against concentrated war efforts in the Atlantic and underestimating of Japan, the Pacific Menace. Subject is critical of Dutch and English control of Asiatic Imperial possessions. Toronto newspaper referred to CLOSE as a "Jap loving Anglophobe with a Fascist turn of mind" but later retracted. Member of Canadian Parliament advocated CLOSE'S broadcast be curbed. Subject in interview praised the British Commonwealth of the nations and condemned the British policies in Far East. Long Beach Police Department advised subject spoke in Long Beach on March 8, 1942. Subject received favorably although some listeners were

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5 Bureau
1 Seattle (Info)
1 San Francisco (I)
1 New York (Info)
3 Los Angeles

DETAILS: Subject first came to the attention of this office by the report from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office of June 6, 1941 regarding an organization called "Federal Union." This report had received this information from the Los Angeles Herald and Express newspaper of May 20, 1941. It was stated that the Southern California Committee for Federal Union would have a dinner meeting at the Beverly Hills Hotel, at which the program of the organization founded by CLARENCE K. STREIT of New York will be explained. It stated further that the Federal Union's program calls for union of the world's democracies in a super state with a single organization to direct its foreign policy but with each democracy retaining direction of its internal affairs. Among the sponsors there was listed the name UPTON CLOSE.

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] advised by [redacted]

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On March 9, 1942 [redacted]

[redacted] telephonically advised that UPTON CLOSE spoke under the auspices of [redacted] celebrity series at Long Beach on March 8th. [redacted] stated that subject made many un-patriotic remarks in the course of his speech such as "the allies have quit on us." "We are dupes of the English whom I hate." "We have no possibility of winning the war" and "The war has been an utter failure and all hope is lost."

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The Long Beach Police Department was requested to conduct an investigation concerning UPTON CLOSE and, in particular, endeavor to ascertain the nature of the speech given by CLOSE on March 8, 1942. By report dated April 21, 1942 the Long Beach Police Department advised the following:

[redacted] telephone [redacted] has lived in this city most of her life. For the past ten years she has been conducting the Celebrity Series, these series running from October to April and June each year, usually having one meeting a month, at which some noted speaker appears. Admission to these ranges in price from 50¢ to \$1.50, this being her means of livelihood.

"The lecture in question was held at the Municipal Auditorium at 3 P.M. Sunday, March 8. The speaker, CLOSE, was a substitute speaker, and his subject was relative to the situation in the Pacific. He is known to have a wonderful background relative to knowledge of the Orient. He is quite blunt in his statements and is usually introduced under the heading that 'his remarks might make you mad but they will also make you think, and he will not tell you anything but the truth.'

"The true name of CLOSE is JOSEPH WASHINGTON HALL. He was born in 1894 at Kelso, Washington. He now lives at 3052 Lake Hollywood Drive, Hollywood, California, telephone Granite 3940. He has written a number of books under the pen name of UPTON CLOSE, these books being based on his knowledge of the Orient and the Pacific as a whole. He was an investigator for the United States Government at Chantung, China, during the Japanese invasion, 1916 to 1919. It is believed that he is now connected in some way with the U. S. Government.

"He is listed in the 1942 'Who's Who in America', which gives a good background of his knowledge and beliefs. He broadcasts for the Signal Oil Co. over station K.F.I., at 3:45 P.M. every Sunday.

[redacted] reports that since his talk on March 8, she has had many criticisms relative to the speech and on the other hand she has received many complimentary reports, which indicated to her that those who criticized the talk did not understand all the remarks made.

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"Dr. OBERHOLTZER, Superintendent of Schools in Long Beach, and [redacted] of Buffums Dept. Store, heard the speech and complimented [redacted] for having a speaker who knew his subject so thoroughly, and stated that it was, in their opinion, a very good one.

[redacted] is of [redacted] descent and many of her closest friends are English. Some of them were critical of the speech while others praised it."

The records of the Long Beach Police Department, Subversive Detail, were subsequently checked by the writer and it was ascertained that they contained clippings from Los Angeles newspapers referring to the fact that subject had been criticized upon the floor of the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa and that it had then been recommended that his broadcasts over the National Broadcasting System stations be "curbed." The files contained no further information of value.

RICHARD F. CONNOR, Room 501, Broadway-Arcade Building, Los Angeles, telephone Michigan 8654, in charge of the Radio Coordination Bureau which coordinates some twenty-nine commercial broadcasting stations within the jurisdiction of the Western Defense Command, was contacted and agreed to obtain scripts of all of UPTON CLOSE'S broadcasts since December 7, 1941. He stated that CLOSE had spoken over both the red and blue networks of the National Broadcasting Company and that the programs usually originated in San Francisco but that some of them originated in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and possibly other cities. He stated that to obtain these scripts he would probably have to contact JOHN SWALLOW, the west coast program director of NBC located in San Francisco and WALTER BUNKER, a NBC official in Los Angeles.

CONNOR checked the records and reported that the majority of CLOSE'S radio talks were on a transcontinental hook-up but that a few of them had been made over what is known as a Pacific coast hook-up. Three or four days subsequent CONNOR telephonically reported that all of the available scripts had been assembled but that during the afternoon and evening of December 7, 1941 CLOSE had broadcast an undetermined number of times as the news bulletins of the progressive war came in and that no recording or script of those broadcasts had been retained. Except for that one day, however, scripts of all of CLOSE'S broadcasts had been assembled.

Agent accompanied CONNOR to Radio City which contains the National Broadcasting Company offices, Sunset and Vine, Hollywood, California, where [redacted] delivered the above mentioned scripts to agent. The script of the regularly scheduled broadcast of subject on the morning of December 7, 1941, before news of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor had been received, indicates that subject was then warning of a possible Japanese attack on American or British holdings in the Far East. At one point he stated "Is Japan planning a surprise war move tomorrow or the next day and making use of certain British news vendors to pull the wool over America and Britain while Japan completes her last plans, say a landing on the Gulf of Siam or the oil coast of Borneo or even as the Australians seem to think, a landing on the coast of Australia? We might even include in this category the jittery anticipation of the people of Manila that the Japanese would open the war with a bombing of the civilians of that crowded city, although no military experts could imagine a general staff so stupid as to throw away its initial advantage of surprise just to cremate a few thousands of civilians not even engaged in war work and not even belonging to the power with which the war was to be fought. No, whatever TOJO may plan to spring tomorrow, it will be something of more practical military value than the bombing of Manila if it is anything war-like at all."

On December 27, 1941 CLOSE stated "the essential is that without mastery of the year, a first class power is helpless before the onslaught of a war weary third class power" and "this is not a phase of the struggle against the Axis. For those in the Pacific this is the main struggle and must be fought as such." The above statements are representative of two of the themes which CLOSE constantly emphasizes week after week in his radio broadcasts.

A third theme is summarized by CLOSE'S statement on January 25, 1942, "the picture of realism is that the United States and China are the sturdiest elements on the side of the united nations and that the Dutch power in the East Indies ranks near, while Russia remains an enigma so far as the weak pacific picture is concerned. The most vulnerable element in the picture is the disbursed links of the chain force, the British Empire."

A fourth theme was summarized on the same date in the following words, "The Japanese plan is for swift, fast, surprise military advances up to certain points and from those points on to advances on what they call the cultural front rather than face on the military front. The cultural front will take up where the military advances slow down. By cultural front advances they mean puppet governments in China, the Philippines, Siam, Burma, Malay and the Dutch East Indies, and Revolution in India, all under the slogan 'Asia for the Asiatics.'"

CLOSE several times referred to a possible serious food shortage on the west coast due to the evacuation or internment of a high percentage of the Japanese farmers and on January 25, 1942 criticized the proposed plan to evacuate all people of Japanese descent from the Pacific coast regions.

On February 22, 1942 CLOSE stated "**** a lot of heedless people are finding out just what it means to enter quite unprepared into responsibility for war with a very inefficient ally on the other side of the world." On the same date CLOSE quotes with approval NEHRU as saying "India will not longer choose British over-lordship merely in preference to Japanese or German conquest but if India can throw off ALL over-lordship, India will fight to the last man for that."

On February 15, 1942 the bulk of CLOSE'S time on the air was devoted to a criticism of the British control of India and to other far eastern imperial possessions. He likened the British Empire to a very strange individual "standing on one beautiful firm and healthy leg of the Commonwealth of Free Dominions who are fighting for her because they do not have to, and upon another leg, paralyzed with elephantiasis

of the imperial colonies who will not fight for her because they are told they must." He strongly criticized the type of British Colonial Administrator as inefficient and having no understanding of the colonial problems and strongly implies that the British Asiatic Empire has been dead for the past fifty years, at least from the neck up.

On March 8, 1942 CLOSE states that the "weaknesses and blunders and surrenders and inefficiency in the Asiatic Empires of our allies "are not American surrenders or American mistakes." On that date he contrasts the excellent fight put up by the Filipinos with the fact that the Asiatic subjects of the British and Dutch Empires would not fight for their over-lords.

On May 3, 1942 CLOSE thanked his listeners who had flooded the National Broadcasting Company with their assurances of interest and loyalty to the continuance of "fair critical analysis over the air" and states that interrogation by a member of Parliament in any democratic country should not be taken too seriously, pointing out that no matter how much Parliaments go in for that sort of thing they are infinitely preferable to Gestapos.

The complete scripts of all of CLOSE'S broadcasts from December 7, 1941 through May 3, 1942 are being retained in the files of the Los Angeles Field Division.

On May 10, 1942 CLOSE stated that he had been told the FBI had been looking into the matter of Asia's views and of the reports and reporters of these views. He goes on to praise the excellent work the FBI has been doing, particularly on the west coast and closes his discussion of this as follows: "***but so long as the FBI remains purely investigative and does not set itself up as a Judge and avoids being made a stooge for factions or influential persons who wish to persecute those who think differently from themselves, in other words, so long as the trained investigators of the FBI remain as conscientious and modest as they are today, we have nothing to fear." As will be later pointed out this broadcast was made after CLOSE was aware of the fact that the Bureau was investigating his activities.

[redacted] Vista Del Arroyo Hotel, Pasadena, California, stated that she is the [redacted] of WILLIAM B. FEAKINS, INC., 500 - 5th Avenue, New York City, which is by contract the [redacted] of UPTON CLOSE in the personal appearance and lecture field. However, she stated that to her knowledge CLOSE had arranged speeches recently without consulting her or arranging for the payment of any commission to her firm and she reported that she believed he was now

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being handled by [redacted] stated that to her knowledge CLOSE had spoken in Long Beach, California and before the Early Birds Breakfast Club, Spokane, Washington, although she had not been consulted with reference to the arrangements for these speeches and no commission had been paid to her. She told agent, however, that she was making no objection to these dealings for the reason that she had heard several complaints casting doubt upon CLOSE'S loyalty to the war effort and for that reason she preferred not to be associated with him in any manner whatsoever and she personally would prefer that he conduct all of his own business in the future. She suggested that further information concerning CLOSE could be obtained from Dr. HERMAN LISSAUER, Director of the Modern Forum of Los Angeles with offices in the Philharmonic Building, Los Angeles.

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Dr. LISSAUER was contacted and could furnish no information of value.

[redacted] who, as was pointed out before, originally complained to this office about statements made by CLOSE in his Long Beach lecture was recontacted and stated that she was unable to give the exact words of any statements made by CLOSE but that she left with the impression that he had stated that Great Britain got the United States into the war and that he had no use for the British. She also believes that he stated that Great Britain had walked out leaving us holding the bag and it was her recollection that he was then referring to the fall of Singapore which had occurred shortly before the lecture. She also remembers that he pointed out that millions of men were being retained in the British Isles while the defense of the Far East was being neglected. She stated that he had reported the Japs were extremely well prepared for war and had been preparing for many years, apparently looking forward to war against the United States. She states she left the meeting with the impression that CLOSE was extremely gloomy over the possibility of an allied victory in the Pacific.

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On May 12, 1942 UPTON CLOSE telephonically communicated with this office and stated he was aware that he was being investigated and requested to know what right this Bureau had to conduct an investigation concerning him. CLOSE was advised that agents of this office would call upon him in person.

On May 19, 1942 Special Agent [redacted] and the writer interviewed UPTON CLOSE at his home, 3052 Lake Hollywood Drive, Los Angeles, telephone Granite 3940. Mr. CLOSE at the beginning of the interview appeared hostile and inferred that others were using the FBI to persecute him. He stated that he would like to "turn the tables" and have the FBI investigate individuals for him. Mr. CLOSE was informed

that the interviewing agents would be pleased to receive any information concerning any matters over which this Bureau had investigative jurisdiction. Mr. CLOSE was desirous of ascertaining why this Bureau was investigating him and requested to know if the investigation concerned his background or whether the investigation concerned his political thoughts and his writings. In the event it pertained to his background CLOSE stated his life had been very open and he had many influential friends who would be glad to speak with agents of this office, whereas if it pertained to his political views and writings he had written numerous books, articles and other publications which were at the interviewing agents disposal in the event the FBI was equipped and capable of handling such a task, which CLOSE doubted. Mr. CLOSE was informed that interviewing agents were not at liberty to state whether or not he was being investigated. However, in the event that he wished to tell us anything concerning himself or wish to answer questions that his cooperation would be appreciated.

Mr. CLOSE stated that he believes he is being investigated due to one of three incidents. He stated that an individual by the name of [redacted] who is [redacted] years of age and presently resides in San Francisco, is a gossip writer on the San Francisco Chronicle and broadcasts on Sundays for the Regal Pale Beer Company. [redacted] formerly employed CLOSE'S present [redacted] and from time to time CLOSE has given information to [redacted] to forward to [redacted] in order that [redacted] may use this on his gossip program or his gossip column. CLOSE is of the opinion that [redacted] is jealous of CLOSE'S works and recently [redacted] wrote [redacted] a letter stating that CLOSE was spending too much time talking against Japan instead of talking altogether against HITLER and furthermore [redacted] remarked to [redacted] that CLOSE would be off the air in about two weeks. [redacted] was present and he advised that [redacted] had subsequently apologized to him for making these remarks concerning CLOSE. However, [redacted] stated he believes [redacted] is influenced by his [redacted] who is presently active in the Communist Party in San Francisco.

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The second incident concerns the Sportsman Review newspaper of Spokane, Washington. Mr. CLOSE stated that an individual who is presently writing for this paper named ASHLEY HOLDEN formerly worked in Japan and CLOSE met him in Tokyo. CLOSE is of the opinion that ASHLEY HOLDEN at one time worked for the Japanese Government as a propaganda agent around the years 1935 or 1936. In 1936 HOLDEN worked for the NYK Steamship Line and subsequently became closely associated with [redacted] who is presently associated with the University of Washington. CLOSE advised that during the years 1923 to 1925 he (CLOSE) was associated with [redacted] at the University of Washington and it was during this period that [redacted] went to Japan in order to study.

[redacted] is stated by CLOSE to have greatly influenced the people in Washington to disregard the Japan Menace. CLOSE advised that ASHLEY HOLDEN did not like him inasmuch as he, CLOSE, was pointing out continually the Japanese Menace. CLOSE is of the opinion that HOLDEN is pro-Japanese.

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The third incident was termed by CLOSE to be "the Toronto affair." CLOSE exhibited an editorial clipping entitled "Anti-British Propaganda" which was taken from the Globe and Mail Newspaper, Toronto, Canada of March 11, 1942. This editorial criticizes CLOSE'S broadcasts and the most pertinent paragraph is as follows:

"Most people in Canada are becoming extremely indignant with the stable of propagandists maintained by the Hearst interests, by Colonel R. R. McCORMICK, and by the National Broadcasting Company, which presents each Sunday a Jap-loving Anglophobe with a Fascist turn of mind, called UPTON CLOSE. Mr. CLOSE styles himself an expert on the Far East, but obviously he understands little of India. He seems to exonerate Americans from all responsibility for what has occurred in the Southwest Pacific by reviving every canard that has ever been uttered against the British."

(CLOSE gave interviewing agents a clipping of this article which is being retained in instant file).

CLOSE stated that he then wrote to the Globe and Mail newspaper stating his opinions and that in his belief the newspaper had misinterpreted his broadcasts and requested that a retraction be made and that CLOSE'S letter be published along with the retraction. Mr. CLOSE gave the agents a copy of his letter to the Globe and Mail which is dated March 20, 1942 and a copy of another newspaper article by the Globe and Mail published March 24, 1942. (Both are retained in instant file). Mr. CLOSE stated this did not appear to him to be a sufficient retraction and he subsequently again wrote to this newspaper and thereafter a complete retraction was made and Mr. CLOSE received a letter from Mr. A. A. McINTOSH, editor and chief of the Globe and Mail, dated April 9, 1942 in which he states in substance that a retraction has been made with reference to the statements previously made in the Globe and Mail newspaper, that "we do not wish to misconstrue any commentator's views and especially those emanating from a neighboring nation with which Canadians have so much in common." A copy of this letter is retained in instant file. Mr. CLOSE stated further that according to a newspaper article contained in the Los Angeles Examiner newspaper April 22, 1942, it was stated that a member of the Canadian Parliament had advocated upon the floor of Parliament that a request be made to the National Broadcasting Company that UPTON CLOSE'S broadcasts be curbed.

Mr. CLOSE stated that he has previously given information concerning other individuals at the request of agents from the New York and San Francisco Field Divisions and, therefore, he was unable to understand why, when we were interested in him, that we did not call upon him in person. He stated that he has always warned the American people to watch the Pacific, that the greatest menace lies in the Pacific from the Japanese. He has also continually warned against HITLER before he came into power and at that time he was criticized. He stated before the New Deal he was called too liberal and after the New Deal he was called too conservative, that he has always endeavored to have the American people fully informed concerning the Japanese Menace and now he is called pro-Japanese. Further, that ten years ago he advocated complete embargo upon Japanese goods and at that time he was called pro-Japanese.

CLOSE stated that there are three types of people who do not want to believe in the Pacific menace, that instead they want to place all of their strength in guarding the Atlantic and that their one desire is to crush HITLER. He stated that these three types of individuals are (1) Jews who naturally are blinded with hate for HITLER due to the way he has treated their people; (2) the Party Liners, these being members of the Communist Party who Mr. CLOSE states have as their present Party Line to ignore the Pacific coast in order that more strength may be thrown against HITLER whereby it will tend toward saving Russia, and (3) the old fashioned British Tories who think no more of the Chinese than they do of the Japanese and who care little about the Pacific so long as England is protected.

CLOSE personally expressed to the interviewing agents his admiration for the British Commonwealth of nations and again criticized the British Imperial policies in the Far East, presenting again his analogy of a being with one good leg and one bad leg as heretofore set forth from his broadcast scripts. He emphatically stated that in his opinion the British far eastern policy was "rotten."

✓ Mr. CLOSE stated that during the first World War he served as an Intelligence Officer associated with the State Department and his work was in Japan and China. He stated that his reports first revealed to the world that Japan was using opium as a means of conquest by making it available to soldiers. He further stated that his reports concerning the opium were used by President WILSON to defeat the claims of Japan in the Peace Conference. It is interesting to note that it was while CLOSE was working on this mission his code identifying symbol was "UP CLOSE." Subsequently he adopted the name "UPTON CLOSE" as his pen name, his real name being JOSEPH WASHINGTON HALL, however, he is not well known by this name.

Mr. CLOSE stated he has one son presently in the Medical Corps of the United States Army and has another son who will be in the armed service within a few months. Mr. CLOSE presented interviewing agents with a copy of a biography of UPTON CLOSE dated March 19, 1942 written by UPTON CLOSE. This is being retained in the Los Angeles file, however, it is being set forth herein and is as follows:

"Long before the outbreak of war in the Pacific, UPTON CLOSE was known as the outstanding authority on Asia and the peoples of the Pacific Basin. More than any other writer and public speaker, he predicted the inevitable clash of two civilizations. Today, with that war in full swing, he is radio's accepted authority on the Pacific crisis. His books, NBC broadcasts and new articles are being followed by millions of Americans.

"UPTON CLOSE was born with a faculty to see what lies ahead. His contacts with leaders, dictators, premiers and presidents of five continents places him in a position of judgment. His intimate knowledge of the peoples of Shanghai, Rangoon, Cairo, or North Platte, Nebraska, gives him common ground with his public.

"UPTON CLOSE is the son of pioneer parents of the Pacific Northwest. He spent his childhood on an Indian Reservation along the Columbia River. His French mother was the first piano teacher in Portland, Oregon. His father, a husky down-east Yankee and a friend of Poet, JOAQUIN MILLER, homesteaded in what is today the city of Kelso, Washington. After graduation from an eastern college CLOSE went to China and served as an intelligence officer for the United States government during World War I. In the years following, he became a familiar figure covering the Chinese revolution. Flood, famine, revolution--he has known them all. Advisor to the Chinese Student revolutionaries in Peking (1919), aide of War-Lord WU PEI-FU, editor of the Peking Leader, oldest newspaper in the world, CLOSE traveled extensively in all parts of China, Japan, Manchuria and the South Seas. He returned to America in 1923 to write for the National Geographic magazine, "Where the Mountains Walked", the story of an earthquake which snuffed out the lives of a half a million human beings in Northwest China.

"Later Professor of Asiatic Culture at the University of Washington, UPTON CLOSE annually visited the Far East as leader of an Oriental seminar of students, teachers and professional people.

"Between travels and lectures, UPTON CLOSE has written ten books on adventure, history, romance and biography. He has contributed more than a thousand articles to magazines and newspapers on three continents, including the foremost American magazines such as the

Saturday Evening Post, Cosmopolitan, Liberty, and American Mercury, and he is now a special writer for Reader's Digest, most widely-read magazine in the English and Spanish languages.

"Early in 1941, when storm clouds of the Pacific War began to brew, he was invited to become National Broadcasting Company's special expert on Pacific affairs. Today his commentaries over NBC's Red Network has established him as a 'must' to millions of listeners. Requests for printed copies of his penetrating, common sense talks for Americans pour in after each broadcast.

"Fifteen years ago, when UPTON CLOSE came home from wandering the length of Asia, and his book, "The Revolt of Asia", became a best-seller and harbinger of things to come, the New York Times called him 'the prophet of New Asia'. Eight years ago, in his book, 'Challenge: Behind the Face of Japan', which was re-printed in abridged form in Reader's Digest UPTON CLOSE said: 'Why should Japan and America fight? They shouldn't. What have either Japan or America to gain by war? Nothing. Yet the sane observer, knows that their basic sense of values, ideas of sportsmanship, spiritual and material hankerings and ambitions in life are so variant that the break must and will come.'

"Today, more than ever before, UPTON CLOSE believes our job is in the Pacific, that the real problem of America is there and either our brightest future or the darkest destiny is there--depending on how we handle it.

"He believes the pacific era is here and that every ounce of our energy must be bent to establish an American monitored peace for all the peoples of the Pacific Basin, Japan included. The total destruction of militarism in Japan or in any other part of the Pacific where it may rear its hydra-headed form is part of his philosophy for the war and the future era of peace.

"Four days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, UPTON CLOSE was getting ready to fly across the Pacific on a survey mission for NBC, and as a special writer for Reader's Digest."

Mr. CLOSE mentioned the most important lectures he has given since the first of the year were made at the following places in the month indicated:

February - Cuyamaca Club in San Diego.
March - Texas State Teachers Association, Lyceum Association, New Orleans.
April - Earlybirds Breakfast Club, Spokane, Washington; Columbia Empire Association, Portland, Oregon
May - Texas State Bankers Association, Dallas, Texas.

During the interview Mr. CLOSE mentioned that he was the author of the following books:

"In the Land of the Laughing Buddha"

"An Outline History of China"

"The Influence of Pacific Asian Poetry"

"Moonlady"

"The Revolt of Asia"

"Challenge"

During the course of the interview Mr. CLOSE'S attitude became very friendly toward the Bureau and Mr. CLOSE upon several occasions indicated his willingness to cooperate with this Bureau to the fullest extent.

- C L O S E D -

JPHa:WMJ
7-22-42
65-11986-19

ALLOR.JD

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
WENDELL BARGE

Re: UPTON CLOSE, with alias
Joseph Washington Hall
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

b6
b7C

With further reference to my memorandum of March 9, 1942, I am at this time transmitting a copy of a report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Los Angeles, California, on May 27, 1942, in connection with the above-entitled matter.

Also forwarded are photostatic copies of scripts of radio broadcasts delivered by the above subject on the following dates:

December 7, 14, 15, 17, 21, 27, and 28, 1941.
January 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25, 28, and 31, 1942.
February 1, 7, 8, 15, and 22, 1942.
March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 1942.
April 5, 12, 19, and 26, 1942.
May 3, 1942.

In addition to the above-designated material, there is transmitted a photostatic copy of a pamphlet entitled, "Events and Trends of the Week", dated May 18, 1942, which, from an inscription thereon, you will note was directed to Mr. R. B. Wood, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau's Los Angeles, California, office with a notation to the effect "Americanism for Mr. Tolson all - including Department of Justice! With respects - Upton Close".

Mr. E. A. Tamm

Mr. Clegg [redacted] Will you please advise me whether, in your opinion, any additional Mr. Glavin investigation with reference to this subject is warranted at this time.

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Kramer

Mr. McGuire

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Miss Gandy

MAILED

★ JUL 23 1942 ★

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED - JULY 23 1942
7-23-42
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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LBN:WGR

May 27, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hondon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Herde _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Bechm _____
Miss Gandy _____

b6
b7C

ML
With reference to the correspondence from Upton Close, you will be interested in knowing that he was the subject of an initial White Slave inquiry back in 1931. He smuggled a Chinese girl out of China dressed as a boy. She lived with him for the next two years. She became pregnant on two occasions as a result of her relations with Close and on one occasion nearly died as a result of an operation. The latest information is that she was deported back to China.

You will also recall that [redacted] called the Director to ask if we were investigating Close. In view of Close's letter to Hood, I would like to call [redacted] and tell him about the nasty letter to the Attorney General and the unreasonable attitude Close has taken.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

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RECORDED &
INDEXED
MHC

65-11986-20

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

11 JUN 4 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON

Modular

10 JUN 12 1942

8-15 1942

TO: _____

 SEARCHING UNIT NUMBERING UNIT Note Date Please return TYPING UNIT Please make _____ copies PERSONNEL FILES ~~CONSOLIDATION UNIT~~ ~~FILING UNIT~~ CENTRAL HOLD DESK FRONT OFFICE ROUTING UNIT

Please block _____ copies M _____

Note enclosures

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DATE 4-16-99 BY SP1 C4/MR.

 See Me Phone Me Please Handle Note and Return

Please file with original
of this in 65-11986-21

*Thanks -*b6
b7C

EVENTS AND TRENDS OF THE WEEK

By UPTON CLOSE 100-5532

*A Broadcast over Stations of the
National Broadcasting Company*

MAY 10, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-07-2006 BY 60324AUCBAW/CPB/RDS

Mr R B Hood:

Americanism for
all - including Dept of
Justice!
with respects —

A NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY

PUBLIC SERVICE FEATURE

Upton Close

100-5532-13

PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS
BERKELEY AND LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

1212

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

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[Signature]

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Events and Trends of the Week

May 10, 1942

THIS HAS BEEN a week of action in the Pacific arena of war. The week's great events, following them from east to west, have been: one, the exciting first chapter of the battle for Australia; two, the saddening final chapter of the battle for the Philippines; three, the heartening Chinese counterattack in Burma commanded by General "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell; four, the initial Japanese land assault upon India, still small but with potentialities; five, the coöordinated Chinese guerrilla assaults upon Japanese communications and garrisons in widely scattered parts of Japanese-held China; and six, the British landing on great Madagascar Island.

How decisive all these events of this very active week just passed may be upon the war in general is yet to be revealed. Let us take them one by one.

First—the battle of the Coral Sea, which has us and the whole world pretty much on tiptoe watching for further developments this morning. The Coral Sea is that beautiful and dangerous chunk of the Pacific Ocean lying between the tail of New Guinea on the north and the long, narrow French island of New Caledonia, which American forces recently occupied, on the south, and between the northeast coast of Australia on the west and the string of deep South Sea islands known as Melanesia on the east. The Coral Sea nearest the Australian coast is exceedingly dangerous owing to the Great Barrier Reef, the stretch of submerged coral islands one hundred to two hundred miles off the dry rocky coast of Australia. From Japan's well-established bases in the Caroline Islands, which used to belong to Germany but were mandated to Japan by the League of Nations, and Japan's new bases upon the mountainous, knobby bird-shaped tail of New Guinea the Japanese would have to transport invasion forces southward through the Coral Sea to invade and occupy either the part of Australia that matters or the rich island of Tasmania or the twin islands of New Zealand.

Just as the Japanese a few months ago came down from Formosa into the Philippines and from there descended through the Strait of Macassar upon Java, taking Borneo and Celebes on the way, so

they would come down through the Coral Sea in any general assault upon the settled parts of Australia. The strategy of Japanese war-lord Tojo is obviously to keep on exploding without giving his enemies any pause between blows. And so it is not impossible that he is hitting at Australia, and the Chinese-Burma border, and India all at the same time. On the other hand, this Japanese flotilla in the Coral Sea which last week was reported in the Mandated Islands may still prove to be not an invasion fleet accompanying several divisions of troops such as went down through Macassar Strait and took Java, but rather a sally for the purpose of diverting our attention, or even a sort of suicide squadron for the purpose of discovering what we have got in Australia, or a thrust to cut American communications to Australia.

In any case, we may be thankful for the strategy that put American forces into French New Caledonia before this Japanese sally took place, and even more thankful that air force and coöordination existed this time to meet adequately the enemy thrust. These things did not exist in the battle for Java. To the extent that MacArthur has them in Australia—to that extent we have really begun to fight—and to win!

You may recall that some very strong units of the Japanese fleet were reported in the Bay of Bengal shortly after the fall of Rangoon; but after sinking two British warships and doing some other destruction between Ceylon and the Andaman Islands this Japanese sea force disappeared from the region of the Bay of Bengal. Some of us assumed that it had gone westward to plug up the Suez and Cape of Good Hope inlets into the Indian Ocean, and possibly to await a coöoperating German blow in the Middle East. It had not manifested itself by the time the British forehandedly went into Madagascar. However, the British occupying force in Madagascar remains still too small for safety, for it is still possible that the main force of the Japanese fleet may turn up to make an assault on this part of the Indian Ocean.

On the other hand, the best strength of the Japanese fleet may have dashed from the Bay of Bengal eastward instead of westward and may be behind that weekend push upon Australia. The importance of the battle of the Coral Sea depends upon which way the main Japanese fleet strength went. Our headline writers, yearning to offer good news to our public, have been quick to acclaim the Coral Sea fight a great and smashing victory, the Jutland of 1942, the turning point of the war. It is safer at this point to take General

MacArthur's communiqüs at their face value. They tell us: that the Japanese movement was detected in good time, was combated with alert and adequate forces, chiefly air forces, and that the enemy sustained severe losses. But the action is not yet completed and the full extent of the Japanese forces involved in the battle is not yet revealed. In view of what happened in Macassar Strait and the Java Sea, where it turned out that the first Japanese squadron scouted was merely a come-on and what was thought to be a great victory turned out to be a disaster that gave the Japanese army the privilege of landing whenever it wished anywhere in Java, we can fervently hope that the headline writers are correct this time, while counting on nothing more than is given us in the bulletins from General MacArthur's headquarters. He is not the type of man to hide a real victory, and he has promised to let us have all the news that is not damaging to the conduct of the war.

Now hop from the Coral Sea to Corregidor. Forty-four years to the week after Manila fell to American Commodore ~~John~~ Dewey, the Japanese invaders made themselves masters of historic Manila Harbor, which looks out across the China Sea to Asia. In the 1590's, before the Pilgrim Fathers landed on Plymouth Rock, the medieval Japanese conqueror Hideyoshi, who unified the clans of his own islands, sent agents to the Philippine Islands to annex them and demand that they pay him tribute. These Japanese found that the Spaniards had got into the Philippines a few years earlier. The Japanese left, but promised that they would be back. It has taken them about three hundred and fifty years to come back, but this past week they completed the fulfillment of that ominous promise.

Forty-four years ago, American Commodore ~~John~~ Dewey sailed past Corregidor into Manila Harbor and put an end to the Spanish empire without losing a ship. Now, loss of men and treasure, and self-mortification, have been the cost to us of our Philippine adventure. But against this dreadful cost we can balance the gain of the proud knowledge that our boys can and will fight to the last ounce of strength. Our new pride in our Filipino allies—our recognition that they of Asia also are men—is another prime gain from this adventure. Now, this nation will never let our Filipino friends down, no matter what the cost in the end.

The Japanese gained from the taking of Corregidor such face or prestige as comes from overwhelming the last rock of Western power within the entire vast area which Japan's erupting forces have engulfed. This is something, certainly. When General Hondo, the

commander of the invading armies who later committed hara-kiri, offered General MacArthur terms of surrender after the loss of Manila, General MacArthur laughed. Now the Japanese laugh. But it is not the laugh which would have rocked Asia if the American-Filipino forces had proved soft and disorganized, and had been overwhelmed in a few weeks. All the world, and, most importantly, all of Asia, learned through that five months of awful resistance the fighting quality of twentieth-century Americans. That resistance was the only possible effective counter to the propaganda assiduously spread through Asia for many years, that Americans had grown too soft and luxurious to fight. Now the resistance of the boys of MacArthur and Wainwright and General Lim causes all Asia to suspect that the laugh of Japanese General Yamashita may not be the last laugh. But what is even more important to that result is the determination and unity and organization of the American people; and none of these things have been weakened by the disaster at Corregidor. This must prove a distinct disappointment to the Japanese strategists, who planned the fall of Corregidor as the point at which Americans would weary of the war across Pacific seas. The mothers of America have not turned defeatist, and this is the lesson of Mother's Day, 1942, to the war lords who would build new empires in a world that will no longer bow to organizations of brute force.

I have been following radio Tokyo carefully the last few nights. Over the ether waves, the Japanese have carefully refrained from insulting the United States Army. They have even praised its valor. Tokyo has perfect English voices. It has speakers who know the fine points of American psychology. It has musicians who know enough about our folk music to pick out "My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean; Oh, Bring Back My Bonnie to Me" as a theme song for their war prisoners' reports. I wish that our official propaganda for the Orient could use more Americans who know the fine points of Japanese mentality and the minds of the other Asiatic peoples, too. Radio Tokyo and all the rest of the Japanese propaganda stations know exactly what they are aiming at. Right now they are obviously preparing against the day to make the United States a peace offer. Their propaganda, booming over our short wave for several hours every night, is carefully adapted not to make us mad, but to make us discouraged. It is designed to convince us that we are entirely out of our element across the Pacific. The propaganda trades on the fact that we have been knocked out of the Philippines. It is

being built up on the theory of two more Japanese victories: one, that China will be knocked out of the war; and two, that Japan will dominate the seas around Australia and be able to use that continent for trade. Japan's propaganda program is no doubt timed with an eye on Hitler. If Germany strikes out this spring, Tokyo will try to convince us that we have all we can handle in the Atlantic and that we should let the Pacific go.

The Japanese war lords have now seized all the makings of earth's mightiest empire. Japan is now the greatest "have" nation on the face of the earth. She has seized an area containing half a billion human beings to supply man power. That same area contains nearly all the world's rice, the most economical food for soldiers, much of the world's wheat, all the world's rubber, and practically all its tin. Japan has now hemmed in the semiprecious metals that used to come to us out of China, so important to our war effort. Germany cannot maintain first-class power unless she obtains the raw materials of Russia. Japan already has encircled the raw materials to supply both herself and Germany. She ranks next to us in possession of oil.

Now, whether or not Japan can shape these materials into the world's mightiest empire depends upon two things: first, upon organizational ability; and second, upon being able to keep outside forces at bay long enough to apply that organizational ability. Those among us who slight the organizational ability of Japanese industrialists and engineers are tumbling into the same pitfall of smugness that has caused the white man to suffer crushing defeats in his Asiatic empires. Japan's railway engineers had the railroads of Java running again within three weeks after the conquest. For months, in 1937 and 1938, Japanese industrialists and engineers met daily in conference in the Astor Hotel in Shanghai preparing the most detailed plans for the complete exploitation of the Dutch East Indies as soon as the Japanese army and navy should seize them. If we should continue to be so European-minded and race-blinded as to believe that Japanese organizing ability, left in undisturbed possession for a year or two, of the magnificent resources and man power which Japan's military has seized, would crumple up simply because of a defeat administered to Japan's confederate of the moment in Europe, then we shall find that we have smitten down an adversary in the front only to be taken from the rear. Difficult as it seems, we must learn to look both ways at once. If I am a voice crying in the wilderness on this point—so be it. I would

far rather be a voice crying in the wilderness than a wilderness crying in a voice, and I am afraid there are many wildernesses in some of the voices crying today.

As a matter of fact, we must look not only two ways, but three ways at once. Vice-President Wallace has spoken about South America this week, and now realistic reporters may talk about realities down there without being accused of creating disunity. A danger indeed exists that we may be stabbed from underneath as well as taken from behind.

As Vice-President Wallace warns, we are approaching the great crisis of this war. He warns that Japan may make a sally against the Pacific Coast, and we must watch lest the present sally against Australia prove to be a screen for a much more serious stab at Alaska or other vital parts of this coast. The spring offensive out of Germany is still to come, either over the great-circle route from the Arctic in the direction of the British Isles and Iceland, or a push on Russia, or a drive for the Near East—or all three.

In the face of this coming crisis there should certainly be an end to calling names among us, or to the effort of trying to put blinders on us to make us see only in one direction. No opinion group among us has been all right or all wrong. We need the inspiration and gifts of all kinds of people. In a boat fighting a storm at sea the realist who watches the seams in the bottom of the boat is just as necessary as the idealist who watches the sky, and vice versa. Some men pull a better oar with the right arm than they do with the left one. Each has his purpose in the emergency. The man whom we *should* watch is the man who is not so much interested in bringing us all through the storm as in using the emergency of the storm to gain power for himself or his faction over the rest of us.

We Americans have always encouraged a wide range of individual viewpoints. The real subverter is not the man who thinks differently from the herd while doing everything with his individual power to save that herd; it is the man who thinks foremost of utilizing the danger of the community to make himself or his faction the master over it.

That's the résumé and the lesson for this Sunday. We may look forward, stout-heartedly, to a coming week of stirring events.

EVENTS AND TRENDS OF THE WEEK

By UPTON CLOSE

*A Broadcast over Stations of the
National Broadcasting Company*

MAY 10, 1942

To Edgar B. Hoover
with respects - and
the suggestion that it
be given careful consideration

Upton Close

A NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY

PUBLIC SERVICE FEATURE

RECORDED

65-11986-21

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS
BERKELEY AND LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

11 JUN 4 1942

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65-11986-21

11	JUN 4 1942
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BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

MAY 17 1942



special delivery

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ambassador Hotel
Los Angeles



special delivery

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LBN:WGR

65-11986-21

June 2, 1942

RECORDED

Mr. Josef Washington Hall
University of California Press
University of California at Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4-16-99 BY SP1 CLK/mf

Dear Mr. Hall:

I wish to acknowledge the copy of your broadcast for May 10, which you have forwarded to me with "the suggestion that it be given careful consideration". Also, by reference from the Attorney General I have received your letter of May 13, transmitting a copy of a communication which you directed to R. B. Hood, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau's Los Angeles office. I have carefully perused your communications and your broadcast.

First of all, I regret that you feel that Special Agents of this Bureau have imposed upon you in the past in connection with their investigations. I can assure you that in the future we shall endeavor not to impose upon your time.

As to your observations to the Attorney General wherein you intimated that you are the subject of an investigation, I wish to advise that this Bureau does not, on its own initiative, inaugurate inquiries unless something specific has arisen. Very frankly, many of your listeners have contacted our offices reporting certain statements which you allegedly made. Naturally, in fairness to you as well as in the discharge of our duties, the best source of your comments would be your speeches and there is no secret to the fact that we had secured copies of transcripts of your broadcasts. You were not contacted directly primarily because we did not wish to impose upon your time. This Bureau has made no charges against you and you are not the subject of any special inquiry.

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Handon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Roosse
Mrs. Gandy
CC

The last paragraph at the conclusion of your radio address of May 10, is of course significant in view of your letters to the Attorney General and Mr. Hood, and I can entirely agree with your observations. However, may I assure you that this Bureau's record of the past sustains our present procedure in that our only desire is to secure communications facts contrary to the innuendo of your letter to the Attorney General, and it has been done in an American way on an impartial basis! L E D: 7

★ Should you have any further questions I would be glad to have you communicate with me.

Very truly yours,

JUN 22 1942

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Pieper - San Francisco

Mr. Hood
Los Angeles

F&S: TMJ
65-11986

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JUNE 4, 1942

Transmit the following message to: **SAC**
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

UPTON CLOSE, WAS; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION. RETEL MAY TWENTY-SIX
LAST. COPIES SUBJECT'S RADIO SCRIPTS SINCE DECEMBER SEVEN LAST SHOULD
BE OBTAINED AND FORWARDED TO BUREAU FOR REFERENCE TO DEPARTMENT TO
DETERMINE IF DEPARTMENT IS DESIROUS OF ACTION BEING TAKEN IN THIS MATTER.

HOOVER

SPE 35 W.H. 15

卷之二

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 09-09 BY SPACER/MJ

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E.A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COPIES DESTROYED
134 AUG 5 1960

SENT VIA

16105 M Per 34.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 27 1942

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SPI CIP/ML

Mr. Tolson
Mr. H. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Clancy
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
b6
b7c, Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm

FBI LOS ANGELES 5-26-42 11-16 PM DRB
DIRECTOR - ATTENTION--MR. NICHOLS
SLOW. UPTON CLOSE, WAS, INTERNAL SECURITY. COMPLAINANT ADVISED HIS
OFFICE SUBJECT LECTURED IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, IN MARCH, NINETEEN
FORTYTWO, AND MADE HIGHLY UNPatriOTIC REMARKS, INCLUDING QUOTE THE
ALLIES HAVE QUIT ON US, WE ARE DUPES OF THE ENGLISH, WHOM I HATE. WE
HAVE NO POSSIBILITY OF WINNING THE WAR AND THE WAR HAS BEEN AN UTTER
FAILURE AND ALL HOPE IS LOST UNQUOTE. THE LONG BEACH PD REPORTS SUBJECTS
SPEECH FAVORABLY RECEIVED, ALTHOUGH SOME LISTENERS CRITICAL. ONI REPORT
MARCH LAST INDICATED SUBJECTS BROADCASTS PRO JAPANESE AND SUBJECT FORMER-
LY EMPLOYED BY JAPAN AS A PROPAGANDA AGENT. SCRIPTS OF SUBJECTS
BROADCASTS SINCE DECEMBER SEVENTH, NINETEEN FORTYONE, OBTAINED, RE-
VIEWED, AND INDICATE SUBJECT HAS BEEN WARNING AGAINST CONCENTRATING
WAR EFFORTS IN THE ATLANTIC AND THE UNDERESTIMATION OF JAPAN, THE PA-
CIFIC MENACE. SUBJECT HAS STRONGLY CRITICIZED DUTCH AND ENGLISH CON-
TROL OF ASIATIC IMPERIAL POSSESSIONS. TORONTO NEWSPAPER REFERRED TO
CLOSE AS QUOTE JAP LOVING ANGLOPHobe WITH A FASCIST TURN OF MIND UN-
QUOTE, BUT LATER RETRACTED. MEMBER ADVOCATED ON FLOOR OF CANADIAN
PARLIAMENT THAT SUBJECTS BROADCASTS BE CURBED. SUBJECTS LECTURE MANAGER
AND THE PRESIDENT OF A FORUM AT WHICH CLOSE SPOKE-INTERVIEWED WITH
NEGATIVE RESULTS, BOTH EXPRESSING DISTRUST OF CLOSE AND AGREEING TO
KEEP FACT THEY HAD BEEN CONTACTED CONFIDENTIAL. CLOSE TELEPHONICALLY
CONTACTED THIS OFFICE AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INTERVIEWED ON MAY NINETEENTH,
FORTYTWO. CLOSE APPEARED HOSTILE AT COMMENCEMENT OF INTERVIEW, BUT
DEFINITELY FRIENDLY TO BUREAU AT TERMINATION THEREOF. IN INTERVIEW
SUBJECT PRAISED BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINIONS, BUT CONDEMNED BRITISH
POLICIES IN THE FAR EAST, REFERRING TO THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN ASIA AS
QUOTE ROTTEN UNQUOTE. ORIGINAL COMPLAINANT WAS RECONTACTED AND STATED
SHE COULD NOT REMEMBER SUBJECTS WORDS BUT LEFT LECTURE WITH IMPRESSION
HE WAS GLOOMY ABOUT THE UNITED STATES CHANCES IN THE WAR. FOR THE INFO-
RMATION OF THE BUREAU CLOSE WAS BORN IN EIGHTEEN NINETY FOUR AT KELSO,
WASHINGTON, SERVED AS INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, CONNECTED WITH STATE DEPART-
MENT DURING WORLD WAR ONE, TRAVELING IN CHINA, JAPAN, MANCHURIA, AND
THE SOUTH SEAS. RETURNED TO AMERICA IN NINETEEN TWENTY THREE AND HAS
ANNUALLY VISITED THE FAR EAST FOR MANY YEARS THEREAFTER. WAS PROFESSOR
OF ASIATIC CULTURE AT UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON HAS WRITTEN MANY BOOKS
AND ARTICLES BASED ON HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE ORIENT AND THE PACIFIC.
PRESENTLY IS SPONSORED BY SIGNAL OIL COMPANY IN A REGULAR SUNDAY BROAD-
CAST AS COMMENTATOR ON FAR EAST EVENTS, OVER N B C NETWORK. NO FURTHER
INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED.

HOOD

RECORDED

INDEXED

6-4-42
745

194 AUG 15 1960

COPIES DESTROYED

A AND H JUN 4 RECD
OK FBI WASH DC 226 AM DCN
MAY 30 RECD

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California
June 6, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Q
Re: UPTON CLOSE, with alias
Josepf Washington Hall
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Bureau teletype dated June 4, 1942 I enclose herewith scripts of radio broadcasts delivered by the above subject on the following dates:

December 7, 14, 15, 17, 21, 27, 28, 1941;
January 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31, 1942;
February 1, 7 (2), 8, 15, 22, 1942;
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 1942;
April 5, 12, 19, 26, 1942;
May 3, 10, 1942 and two pages from the script of the radio broadcast delivered on May 17, 1942.

b6
b7C

For the information of the Bureau the two pages from the broadcast of May 17, 1942 were delivered to Special Agents of this office at the time CLOSE was interviewed as set forth in report of Special Agent [redacted] made at Los Angeles on May 27, 1942.

It should be noted that the printed pamphlet entitled "Events and Trends of the Week", which is a copy of the broadcast delivered by CLOSE on May 10, 1942 was sent to Special Agent in Charge, R. B. HOOD, with the following comment in ink on the face thereof, "Americanism for all - including Dept. of Justice! With respects - UPTON CLOSE." This was sent by CLOSE subsequent to the above mentioned interview.

It is requested that the above mentioned scripts be returned to this office when the Bureau no longer has need of them.

Enc.

1 ENCL. 8
2

Enc. 2

CG:LH
100-5532

JUN 9 RECD

RECORDED
Very truly yours, 65-11986-2-3
INDEXED
R. B. HOOD
Special Agent in Charge
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~SECRET~~
FJS:WMJ
65-11986

June 18, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Los Angeles, California

h
Re: UPTON CLOSE, with alias
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated June 6, 1942, wherein you enclosed scripts of radio broadcasts delivered by the above subject on the following dates:

December 7, 14, 15, 17, 21, 27, and 28, 1941;
January 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 21, 24,
25, 28, and 31, 1942;
February 1, 7 (2), 8, 15, and 22, 1942;
March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 1942;
April 5, 12, 19, and 26, 1942;
May 3, and 10, 1942, and two pages from the
script of the radio broadcast delivered
on May 17, 1942.

Photostatic copies of these speeches have been prepared, and in accordance with your request, these scripts are being returned herewith.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Henden _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
Enclosure MAILED 9
★ JUN 18 1942 A.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-16-99 BY SP1 CLK/mf

6/24/1942
14

65-11986-23

DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION
ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/16/99 BY [signature]

DO NOT
DESTROY
10/19/90

This is not a Bulky
FILE NUMBER is.

65-11986-23

UPTON CLOSE

DECEMBER 7th, 1941.

ANNOUNCER: The National Broadcasting Company presents its expert on Pacific and Far Eastern Affairs, Upton Close.

CLOSE: Again from British sources comes the rumor that Japanese Premier Dictator Tojo is going to make a declaration in Tokio Monday (that's tomorrow), which will definitely say whether it is to be war or peace in the Pacific. The implication is that it may be peace rather than war.

Now, frankly, this repeated rumor annoys dyed-in-the-wool newsmen. If Premier Tojo is going to make a speech tomorrow, why does not the news come from Tokio or the Japanese official news agency instead of Britain? Why is it being said to America in this round-about way? Does Britain or some element in Britain's foreign office have a tentative deal on with Japan which, of course, can not go through without American acceptance and are these feelers intended to get us to give a favorable ear to Tojo when he talks tomorrow or is there possibly a negotiation going on with impetus from the Japanese rather than the British side? And are the Japanese behind these prophetic feelers coming to us Americans via the British news agencies. Or is Japan planning a surprise war move tomorrow or the next day and making use of certain British news vendors to pull the wool over America and Britain while Japan completes her last plans, say a landing on the Gulf of Siam or the oil coast of Borneo or even, as the Australians seem to think, a landing on the Coast of Australia. We might even include

(MORE)

Close

2.

UPTON CLOSE (CONTINUED)

in this category the jittery anticipation of the people of Manila that the Japanese would open the war with a bombing of the civilians of that crowded city, although no military experts could imagine a general staff so stupid as to throw away its initial advantage of surprise just to cremate a few thousands of civilians not even engaged in war work and not even belonging to the power with which the war was to be fought. No, whatever Tojo may plan to spring tomorrow, it will be something of more practical military value than the bombing of Manila if it is anything warlike at all. And while we are waiting to see, we can do nothing more valuable than to examine over and over again the basic facts of the Japanese-American clash. Here they are again.

First, Japan's side. What Japan wants is dominance now of the West Pacific and China with the privilege of sitting on the side-lines to extend her world power while European and American powers -- we, who call ourselves the "white nations" -- mutually exterminate one another. What General Tojo, nicknamed the "Razor", craves more than anything else is for Europe and America to get into a war of the continents which will last twenty or thirty years.

Japan's methods for getting what she wants are constance, well demonstrated, and there is not likely to be surprises there. She keeps feeling out, feeling out, militarily, and meanwhile talking, talking, diplomatically but side-stepping the crush. Of course, were war once opened, she would fight to the end and then rise from the ashes and fight again. Japanese are like that.

(MORE)

Close

3.

UPTON CLOSE (CONTINUED)

Now what are the constants on our side. First, eternal opposition to Japan's empire-building, or anyone else's for that matter, in the Pacific. We shall remain constant on that, no matter how many temptations come to us heralded by rumors via London. Secondly, constant on our side is the superior power both military and economic to crush Japan at any time the showdown comes although we may have to give a lot of our time and money for the job unless some less well-defined jobs in politically more remote parts of the world goes in order to do it. And then we have a third factor on our side. Should I call it the inconstant constant. It is the personal element. Our Commander-in-Chief's mind in the matter. Just where and at what point will he use sufficient force in blocking Japan's out-feelers to make the picture war.

Now, aside from these constants, everything else -- belligerent speeches or suave notes -- are just straws in the wind. They show what way the wind is blowing. Or maybe, we should rather call them straws on the camel's back. Perhaps in history a camel's back has been broken by a last straw. More likely, the camel suddenly shudders or bucks and pitches the load off.

The lesson that Soviet Russia can never be true allies - Soviet Russia and America -- but only companions of the same road -- and under the present regime in Russia only playing parts in a three-cornered duel -- two fighters who happen to be striking at the same opponents --

That picture was all there in the arrival ~~arriving~~ of the Russian Ambassador, Mr. Litvinoff, and his gracious lady, Mrs. Litvinoff, at Treasure

(MORE)

UPTON CLOSE (CONTINUED)

Island yesterday. It was the Ambassador's Show. He is a very genial and big human being -- the biggest I ever knew in Soviet Russia. Everyone admires his grey-haired English wife but this morning it is my show and my comments -- and this is the way the Soviet's Ambassador's arrival looked to this observer. There were of course the Russian worshippers pushing their way down to kiss the hem of anything not American. And some of them were in worker's clothes and some of them were in minks. And there were the Russian War Relief people hoping to have their cause mentioned on the air -- a queer intermixture of humanitarian impulse and political spurs. And there were the cynical American newspapermen, who failing to get any political statement out of the clever Ambassador said to us radiomen in radio parlance - "Take him away."

And there was the Ambassador himself, as near a cosmopolitan as Provincial Russia has ever produced. A man of cosmopolitan Jewish ancestry, married to a fine woman from England. He had on a blue working shirt with no tie, a heavy overcoat of coarse blue stuff. It was very hot in the crowded inner-office of Pan-American Airways and I invited the Ambassador to take off his topcoat and he said, "Oh, but I will soon be going." But what he meant was that an Ambassador couldn't look more coarsely dressed than the newspapermen who interviewed him. And there were the Ambassador's words - very clever, very shrewd in their evasion -- a bucket with no bottom -- a piano with no sounding board -- utterly hollow on Russian-American relations -- showing in every word how little there is in common between these two nations, America and Russia -- their cause, what they stand for, and what they will do to each other when this war is over.

Close

5.

UPTON CLOSE (CONTINUED)

The Ambassador had nothing to say about the possibility that America would fight Japan but we could deduce that that would be taken by the Soviet Government as a situation to be playing for any advantages to be found in it -- to be played by the Kremlin and not as a tragedy in which the heart of Russia would bleed as would the rest of the but heart of humanity/for what its political advantage might be worth to the Kremlin in its present crisis. And when he was asked what part Russia could play in the future of this great Pacific invasion were the issue now war or peace will determine whether blood mania will poison the last half of the twentieth century as it has already poisoned the first half. When he was asked that the Russian Ambassador was silent because he was lost.

There was Madame Litvinoff, whom I had last seen with a cheap market basket on her arm, with a house-dress on, getting out of a Rolls-Royce which belonged to the Kremlin where they were Commissaires, getting out of a Rolls-Royce going about the market place in Moscow in 1928 in search of stale eggs and a wisp of greens for a salad. Yesterday there was Madame Lutvinoff asking me to ask her no questions please about living conditions in Russia, either then or now, because then Russia had revolution and not it has war. And I thought that in that simple request of hers was the whole story.

And it seemed to me that crowded around listening, but not comprehending, were the Russian worshippers who perhaps now would have war and if that is soon to arrive, then would have revolution. Then there was the American mother with two little American children -- keen, alert, well-dressed. For some reason they had come down to be spectators of this

(MORE)

UPTON CLOSE (CONTINUED)

scene. Looking out through the window emblazoned in lights as the great flying bird rested on its belly on the blue lagoon, the little five year old boy said to his mother and this was overheard by another spectator -- "Mama, Mama, what are they coming for?" And his mother looked down, a little startled, and said: "Well, I guess it's what they call for good-will." The little boy looked up wide-eyed and said, "But, Mama, I thought we didn't like the Russians." And then the little girl, the boy's sister, looked down at him with all the sophistication of her sex and her six years and said, "But, Silly, we do now." Well, there is always the lighter touch -- we had it here.

Division Manager of the United Airlines, Mr. Reaver, who supplied the special plane for the Ambassador and his greeters from the Russian Embassy, which plane by the way arrived safely in Washington this morning at 9:41 Eastern Standard Time -- this Mr. Reaver, who is a young man of Seattle, just missed by one second being one of my students back in the old days when I was a college professor -- Well, Manager Reaver remembered that on his Seattle tour he had a very beautiful stewardess who was once a Russian countess, and Mr. Reaver, thinking that Russians would like Russians, offered the Ambassador of the Proletarians the service of the Russian countess-stewardess on his flight to Washington. The Ambassador reached the absolute heights of diplomacy in the manner in which he declined when he said - "When In Rome, I do as the Romans do and when flying in America, I would like an American stewardess." And so he flew across the continent last night and his stewardess was Miss Flora Fitch. And Mr. Reaver had to do something Russian for Ambassador Litvinoff and his party, so he put a can of our best Pacific

UPTON CLOSE (CONTINUED)

Coast caviar made of salmon eggs from the Columbia River, red salmon eggs, in the larder of Miss Fitch on the airplane of the Ambassador flying to Washington.

Just a few words to finish about the marvelous flights that have been inaugurated across the Atlantic by the Pan-American Airways -- the new air line that now takes our flyers who are carrying flying boats across that route and it is said that because we now have an air line some 26 percent of losses in airplanes now being delivered across that route to Egypt are going to be saved. It shows the difference between flyers flying on their own and flyers flying according to schedule in an established airline.

ANNOUNCER: You have heard Upton Close, the National Broadcasting Company's expert on Pacific relations, who has just brought you an up to the minute analysis of Far Eastern Affairs.

This is the Red Network of the National Broadcasting Company.

UPTON CLOSE N.B.C. RED FROM S.F. SUNDAY DEC. 14th, 9.45 a.m. P.S.T.

The Great Pacific War is one week old today. Early last Sunday, Honolulu time, Japanese planes suddenly appeared over our air fields and naval base on the semi-tropical mid-Pacific island of Oahu. Over the southern coast of that island is spread the romantic city of Honolulu. The suddenly appearing planes, dropped destruction and death - and that was Imperial Japan's way of informing us that we are at death grips with her in the Pacific.

In two more days we knew that we were also in complete war with Japan's chosen allies, Germany and Italy. For years I had pointed out gathering storm clouds in the Pacific. Well, now that war is here and I shall review it for you as it unfolds, so far as information is available, and so far as the dissemination of information is not an obstacle to our armed forces - to those men who are prosecuting the forthright task of curbing the forces of violence which have burst out from the Arctic circle to the equator, on the world's largest ocean.

One week ago today, America was watching the Pacific scene and our government was trying to do something constructive about it. As we stood intently watching the drama we were suddenly struck from behind - in the small of the back so to speak. Now, one week later, we have recovered our breath. Aside from the initial surprise attack there have been no further surprises. This is point number one; and it means a great

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED Dec. 14

#2

deal for our side, in dealing with an enemy who takes pride in successful perfidy and whose strategy of warfare throughout his thirteen hundred years of authentic history has been that of the tiger leaping on the unsuspecting prey.

A favorite story in Japan is about a warrior who had his handsome young wife engage his enemy in polite conversation at the gate and who then crept upon and stabbed the enemy while he talked with the lady of the house. This has been the model for many a Japanese war, so while Japan's diplomats - men with reputation for American style, give-and-take - while these diplomats Admiral Nomura who was trained in our own Annapolis Naval Academy, and Envoy Kurusu who is married to an American woman from Chicago - while these two confidence-inspiring delegates were engaging the attention of our Washington government, the Japanese army and navy pounced upon our greatest naval stronghold. It's a queer code and one which we do not propose to have to contend with in the world of the future, and it is the final conclusive evidence to us that we could never have compromised with any Japanese type of New Order in the Pacific or anywhere else.

So let us put down as the second point in our favor, after a week of sudden war, our complete victory on what we might call the moral front. There is no shadow of doubt in anyone's mind now, not even in the minds of our enemies, that we are justified in prosecuting the war with everything we have got.

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED Dec. 14th

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For the temporary advantage of surprise attack, Japan's military leaders have sold whatever sympathy existed for her difficulties anywhere in the world. An enemy who strikes in this fashion publicly signs away all right to complain of any counter blow whatsoever.

We regret the loss incurred in the surprise attack, but since the Great Pacific War had to come, it could not have come any better way for us.

The first benefit to us of the way in which it came, is this fact that we are morally cleared on the pages of history so far as war's actual outbreak is concerned, and we can in this sense say with full assurance that "Our strength is as the strength of ten because our heart is pure". Then there is a second benefit, the value of which is beyond computation. The sudden sinking of the military dagger, hidden inside the diplomatic sleeve of Japanese war Lord Tojo, was designed to destroy American morale, create confusion, to scatter us. Instead of that, nothing can be imagined that could have served so well to unify us, to wipe out all abstract argument and to put us earnestly to work on the job of production.

Here is an almost amusing proof: last Sunday a young man who has travelled much with me in the Orient looked me up here in San Francisco and he was about the most harrassed and hard-working individual I had ever seen. He was travelling for the Office

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED Dec. 14th

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of Production Management, catching up with and squelching the strikes that kept bursting out in war defense industries all over the Western half of this country. Three days after the war broke out he visited me again, this time, I was the busy and harrassed individual, and my friend who had been so busy settling strikes, suddenly found himself with so little to do he was wondering whether he hadn't better join the Navy!

Now let us take a quick review of the actual zones of the Pacific War as a whole and then of the activity in so far as information has been disclosed. First we consider the odds in the conflict! The odds are terribly against Japan. The Japanese General Staff, no matter what their successes, cannot and do not hope to conquer the United States. That is beyond the wildest dreams of the most fanatical worshippers of the Son of Heaven. The maximum Japanese hope and aim is to beat the United States out of the Western Pacific with sufficient losses so that we will be willing to leave it to Japan. But the other way around, the minimum American objective now is the complete crushing of Japan as a naval and military power, that is the unqualified conquest of Nippon, the forcing of the Japanese command to abject surrender and the compelling of the people of Japan to throw themselves upon our mercy. And this is an objective which is entirely within the realm of possibility. In fact it is the objective

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED

Dec. 14th

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which must follow American success in this war, while the reverse, a Japanese conquest of America, could not follow the even greatest possible Japanese successes. Japanese Jingoes have written books predicting Japanese conquest of the British and Dutch Empires in the Pacific and Indian Ocean Basins, but I have never read anything by any Japanese predicting that Japan would ever crush America or have the United States begging for mercy. The downfall of America is to come according to Japanese military philosophy through many many years of fratricidal warfare between white nations, not through any direct attack by Japan. You may ask - "Does not Japanese Premier Dictator General Tojo, believe that Germany will accomplish this destruction of America in the present war?" I would presume to say, on the basis of many conversations with Tojo's intimates, that he has no such expectations in this war, but that the utmost he expects from Hitler's side is enough pressure on us, to induce us to let Japan have its own way West of Hawaii. For this limited objective he has thrown the Mikado's seventy million subjects into the desperate risk of being completely crushed as an organized force and left at the mercy of an outraged nation of another race.

There are two very interesting angles to speculate on, in connection with a complete Japanese defeat. One is, that the Japanese Imperial system, according to their mythology, 2006 years old and according to authentic history at least 1300 years old,

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED

DEC. 14th

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this system could never survive complete national defeat. The man who is regarded as God in Japan, and the family which is too sacred to have a family name, could never beg terms from an American Admiral. The Imperial Household of Japan must simply cease to exist - if necessary to exterminate itself on the points of its own hammered steel swords. What would then become of the seventy million people of Japan, we will speculate about at some other time - there will be plenty of time for that. Maybe the Japanese Communistic party, squelched several years ago by the same military faction now fighting the United States, Britain and the Netherlands Indies would rear its head again. Maybe we would have to ask the Chinese to send over administrators to reorganize Japan - even as Chinese administrators first organized Japan more than a thousand years ago, or maybe something else - we shall get back to all these fantastic, yet very likely, possibilities in some later session.

Now for the second angle, if and when the United States power crushes Japan. That angle is the interesting one because the Japanese, if and when forced to choose an alien power to which to surrender, would without question choose to surrender to the United States, rather to any other enemy. This farsighted possibility of the need for a fairly generous foe may even have been a factor in their decision to precipitate war with us.

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED

DEC. 14th

#7

Have no doubts that this terrible difference in odds is not weighting down the spirits of the Japanese people. Remember that war with a great America is the one possibility which has been so dire to the common people of Japan. That they have just refused to think of it, and now that it is on them, precipitated by a daring, ruthless leadership, it is as great a surprise to them as it was to us - or even greater. And remember that they are groggy already from ten years of war in China, and that they feel entirely encircled now by war, save on the Russian sector. They must feel even more nervous about a Russia which has not yet attacked or been attacked than about those countries with which they are actually at war, because a force might be preparing, for all they know, right now in Siberia, three hours away by bomber, to swoop down on their fragile homes and crowded factories and set half a dozen Tokio fires.

Japanese nerves have a limit, even as do those of other peoples, and when they blow out, they do so even more completely than in the case of less high strung people.

Now how goes the war by sectors? Remember that the Pacific Ocean is a vast triangle, with its point at Bering Strait but ten thousand miles wide at the equator. Fighting Japan and fighting America are nearest together in the north, yet operations in the North sector along the Aleutian islands

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED

DEC. 14th

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is out of the question now. Dutch Harbor, where the Aleutian chain of islands breaks off from the Alaskan promitory is too firmly in American hands for Japan to assault, and no installations that can accommodate modern bomber squadrons yet exist along the chain to the west.

Now the pass over the Siberian sector, we dont know what's brewing there. Going down the Asian coast we apply Chinese reports that one division of Japanese troops have gone south from Manchuria, but that thirty-two divisions remain - at least 400,000 men. Then we drop to Peking, Tienstin and Shanghai where the Japanese have taken captive our few official properties and men. This was fully expected - then down to the Philippines where Japanese invasion attempts are failures thus far. From here we go down to Hongkong; there Japanese are pressing the British and Chinese, who in turn are pressing the Japanese, and the Japanese if not relieved by their Navy, may easily become the meat in a sandwich, and those are mixed waters, between little islands, dangerous for a Navy to operate in. Note the passing - how ironical history has become - that Chinese forces should be rescuing Hongkong for a white empire.

Now the Malay sector - Japanese fighting for a foothold in the frightful salt swamps of tangled mangrove roots on Malay's east coast where sharks lie off shore and crocodiles lie on the shore. They have sunk two great British ships, but that does not put them ashore.

UPTON CLOSE

N.B.C. RED DEC. 14th

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One success perhaps, can be chalked up for Japan - one gained more with silver bullets than with lead not in seam. As yet we have no authentic word as to the extent to which Japanese have taken over Thai, or as to the fate of our Minister to Bangkok, my old friend and associate of a previous world war in China, Willys R. Peck. But it's a long hilly road still from Siam into Burma - this leaves the Dutch East Indies, which most of us thought Japan would strike first, but which are still unstruck at last reports. And their essential rubber and tin are still coming to us. And circling back south of the equator we cross Australia, New Zealand and Samoa which are intact, and encircle the Japanese bases between Hawaii and the Coast of Asia, including the practically undefended bases we may have lost awhile. I was going to say in the words of the old song "loved and lost awhile." But we didn't love them enough to fortify them when we had them -hence we have temporarily lost them. When we recover them we shall love them more. So much for our first war review, and Dzai Shwo, which is appropriate Chinese for "We'll talk again."

UPTON CLOSE - NBC Blue for S.F. - Mon. Dec. 15 - 4:45 P.M. P S T

After one week and one day of the Great Pacific War, today's war news is all good -- so far as that word can be used about any war! It can certainly be used for our side. Japan has achieved no further surprise blows, and preparedness of our forces has proved such that since the first despicable blow Japan's advantage from surprise has been completely lost.

There are certainly no flies on our flying Secretary of Navy Knox.

In the seven days that have elapsed since Honolulu was struck he has flown across three thousand miles of land and more than two thousand miles of water; investigated, returned to Washington and reported to the President and the nation. What happened a week ago Sunday is bad, all right.

Secretary Knox does not hide anything. Our greatest naval base was "not on the alert" - to quote him. President Roosevelt will begin a formal investigation at once. One battleship, the Arizona, one of our most modern; plus three destroyers, a target ship, and a mine layer are a loss -- sunk right in harbor, with 2,638 enlisted men and 91 officers of the United States Navy killed. The list of wounded apparently is small in ratio -- apparently the attackers did a thorough job on their selected objectives. Another battleship, the Oklahoma, is capsized, but - being in harbor - can be raised, says the Secretary. (The loss of personnel is equivalent to that of some of the world's most disastrous naval engagements.)

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So much for the red side of the ledger. On the black there is, according to Secretary Knox's official report: First, the obvious Japanese objective, that of knocking out our greatest naval base and main battle fleet in one perfidious blow, was a failure. That battle fleet is now out scouring the ocean to capture and revenge the attack, and the innuendo in Secretary Knox's statement is that it has more than a fifty-fifty chance of success in this mission. Second, on the black side of the ledger, the touchiest objectives on Oahu Island escaped. These are: the drydocks and the oil storage facilities. It sums up that the great Pearl Harbor base lost ships and planes which can be rapidly replaced from other bases in a few hours to a few days' time. And we did not lose drydocks and storage tanks which it would take months to years of construction work to replace.

So much, so good. And the part of Secretary Knox's report that is going to bring Americans up in their chairs the straightest is his statement that the Pearl Harbor damage was done with the aid of Fifth Column work on a scale never before equalled, even in Norway!

So now we know, I suppose, that those Japanese contractors who were permitted to work on Navy installations through so many years because they were the best contractors and about the

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only ones in the Hawaiian Islands -- now we know that they were not to be trusted. The people of Hawaii who used to resent the warnings of students of Japanese imperial methods -- the trustful people who used to say: "We don't want you talking about those things here, for it stirs up race prejudice and suspicion and we have no prejudice here." Those people have had their lesson.

Now they and we know that being softies and sentimentalists creates - in the end - more hatred and prejudice than being sophisticated in the ways of nations of this age. In passing -- it should be said that not all the fifth columnists were Japanese, either -- or even Orientals.

It would have been natural for officers who knew that the President of the United States had made an appeal for peace direct to the Mikado, Japan's Emperor who is regarded as a divinity, to have assumed that no outburst would occur until this weighty letter was answered with the usual Oriental forms of courtesy. Here is a case which shows that the first requisite of war is to know your enemy -- and know how his mind works as well as know his material strength and disposition. Anyone who had dealt long at first hand with the Japanese would have remembered the principal of Japanese face-saving - as they call it - that applies when you appeal over the head of a Japanese to his superior. Then he must

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either back down completely and abjectly, with a complete loss of face, or he must pitch into you immediately - to save his face. When President Roosevelt addressed the Mikado over the bombing of the Panay, the Japanese premier backed down. This time, he did the opposite. Of course, he was prepared to do it -- had carefully stationed his naval forces over weeks of time.

Well, after what happened around Honolulu, we know that there are some things to be mighty thankful for, and mighty proud of. Aside from this one instance, our forces were not caught off guard.

The smartest watch of all seems to have been kept in the Panama Canal Zone, and when you get low in your mind over what happened a week ago Sunday morning in Hawaii, think about what didn't happen at Panama. That was a much more touchy situation to watch -- what with alien territory and hideouts in the tropical jungles all around, and Japanese, Germans, and Italians residing and doing business in near-by countries. Now we begin to see what great matters lay behind the sudden ousting of pro-German President Arias of Panama more than a month ago, and the closing of all Japanese shops and businesses in Panama soon after that.

RUBBER - By far the most important adjustment in production - and it especially affects this West Coast - is the growing of rubber. Rubber is being grown right here in California and in adjacent

states, believe it or not! Of course, Malay and Dutch East Indian rubber has not been shut off, nor does it seem at all likely that the Japanese Navy will succeed in its ambition to shut off rubber and tin. The Japanese Navy would have to patrol the South Pacific and Antarctic Oceans south of New Zealand and Australia before it could prevent our ships from reaching the rubber ports of Sumatra and Malaya. Of course, there is always the possibility that the enemy might completely occupy the rubber growing regions temporarily, and a yet greater danger is shortage of shipping on our part. And so rubber, vast quantities of rubber, are to be raised in the United States, to supplement our new synthetic rubber industry.

Rubber is being grown on this Coast - not in the shape of rubber trees, which wouldn't grow save in a few spots here, and wouldn't come to fruition for eight years or so, but in the shape of a scrubby little bush, a sort of sagebrush or greasewood, as westerners call it. The true name of the plant is Gwayule, G W A Y U L E, pronounced various ways around here, and I hope I'm right. The botanists say it's a poor relation of the sunflower and chrysanthemum. Struggling for existence in rocky and dry desert, it learned to throw a film of rubbery stuff around such globules of moisture as it could gather and hoard, to keep them from evaporating. The seeds are planted in a nursery. The sprouts which soon come up are lifted by a special grubbing machine, separated and

planted in the field by another machine, harvested and chopped up by still another; and then the gummy tears that float to the surface are collected and moulded into cakes of exactly the same stuff as raw tree rubber, and sent to the Pacific Coast rubber factories. The bush can be used after one season's growth, or it can be left to grow up to forty years. Experiments indicate that the largest yield for capital invested comes from four year old plants.

One rubber company, owning twenty thousand acres of plantation in the South Pacific, has been experimenting with gwayule for years and says several million dollars have been spent on both growing and processing methods.

Several factories exist in Mexico where peons bring in the wild gwayule plant by the burro-load, that is, as soon as the price goes above fifteen cents a pound. At less than that a Mexican would rather bask in the sun -- and you or I would be the last to blame him for such good sense!

But the great production of gwayule rubber must come from regular plantings, and several excellent domestic varieties of the weed have already been developed. One is said to yield twenty-five per cent gum by weight. It is a wonderful crop for dry farming -- the dryer the better, up to a certain limit. The largest experiment farm, of a hundred acres, is in the dry Salinas River Valley, south of the San Francisco Bay region, and is carefully guarded by the owning company in

order to protect its investment in the improved seeds raised there. The Company's attitude two weeks ago was that if anyone else wants to get into competition -- let them go gather wild seeds and breed them up, and let them develop their own costly machinery. But that was before the nation was in war -- a war that might be decided, before it is over, by gwayule rubber -- who knows! The secretary of the Salinas Valley National Defense Committee, Mr. McCargar, claims in a printed bulletin that capital invested in gwayule growing will yield five times as much rubber as the same capital invested in synthetic rubber plants. He says that the Federal Government has put forty million dollars in synthetic rubber plants, and wants twenty-five million for gwayule -- and claims that he will get us three times as much rubber as the plants out of that investment. Well -- it remains to be proved, and doubtless it will be proved, for enterprise like this is our strongest point in war or peace.

UPTON CLOSE - NBC Blue - Wednesday, December 17 - 4:45 P.M.

The Great War of the Pacific is, at the present moment, being conducted on the opposite side of the Pacific, seven to eight thousand miles from here - insofar as any important fighting is concerned.

The strategy of the Japanese high command begins to be apparent.

That strategy is concentrated on the Singapore Naval Base and Dutch East Indian sources of supply of essential raw materials. The two objectives are, in effect, but one -- the objective of raw materials, for Singapore is but the policeman watching over South Seas' raw materials, who has to be knocked out before they can be pilfered.

The cutting off of oil, rubber and tin - and most particularly of oil, it was - that impelled the Japanese war machine to make the final desperate decision to risk all upon a general Pacific War. That Japanese war machine faced strangulation.

Lack of essential materials would soon have forced the Japanese armies to retreat out of China. Japan's proud war lords faced the alternative of appearing before history to have been whipped by China alone, or of taking the desperate risk of unleashing their so-far unused Navy against the two great naval powers of America and Britain which were enforcing the economic embargo.

The only thing which surprised watchers of the picture (and this

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includes Japanese observers as well as outsiders) was that the Japanese inner council chose to hit at America first, but the reasoning behind that is now clear. Tycoon Tojo had become sufficiently satisfied - through the negotiations of his stooges Kurusu and Nomura - that if that Japanese Navy moved against the South Pacific source of oil and rubber supply, that move would bring the United States Navy into active war against Japan. Once having satisfied himself of this, Tojo - in true Samurai style - decided to strike our Navy first, and strike at its most important parts - its main seabbase, its heavy battle fleet, and its heavy bombing support. Tojo's idea was a blow that would send us reeling, while the main Japanese objective was pursued in Malay, Borneo, and Sumatra.

In that objective, Tojo was successful only to a very limited degree. For the American battle fleet was able to put out to sea, on the hunt, and the Pearl Harbor Base is able to continue to defend itself. We cannot minimize the loss of five ships and a number of planes, and still more, of three thousand trained men. Aside from the meaning to us of the sudden death of so many of our sons, there is the fact that trained men are even more precious to us at this stage of the game than ships and planes. Nevertheless, to the extent that Pearl Harbor still stands entirely clear of all foreseeable

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danger, and yet, further, to the extent that the great United States Battle Fleet remains intact for action in the southwest Pacific - to the extents to which these two situations are undeniably true -- to these extents, Tojo's blow at America ranks as failure, and remains a liability on the books which we shall require him to pay for dearly.

On the other hand, Japan - it now appears - has benefitted by a surprise victory against British Naval forces on the Malay Coast which compensates Japan at the moment for her failure to cripple the American battle fleet. The importance of the Japanese sinking of Britain's two greatest units of sea-power in the Pacific battle areas now becomes apparent, with the British announcement of last night, repeated again this morning, that British sea-power is no longer in supremacy on both sides of the nine hundred and fifty mile long Malay Peninsula. The British ships - Prince of Wales and Repulse - were dispatched to Singapore specifically to meet a Japanese blow, and they arrived with perfect timing, just ahead of the Japanese leap.

So far, the job was perfect. Then, having arrived where they were needed, the two ships went forth, got hit, and went to the bottom. If the reason be - as dispatches have hinted, that they went out on patrol without sufficient air protection, it is evident that an official investigation is even more in order at Singapore than at Pearl Harbor. In any case,

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Japanese bombers have cleared the way on the Malay Coast for the main Japanese objective. They have given to Japan the supremacy of these seas, making Singapore once more a naval base without sufficient navy - a naval base on the defensive. Consequently, the way is open for Tojo to push his main objective - the reduction of Singapore - and that is being pushed with every possible force and vigor and complete disregard of cost and losses.

Singapore base lies up the narrow salt water creek which separates little Singapore Island from the tip of the long Malay Peninsula. Singapore city pretty well covers Singapore Island and fronts south towards some little harbor islands and big Sumatra across the straits, a few hours' sail. Harbor defenses on these little islands protect Singapore to the south. Shallow water and mangrove jungle, whose tangled roots grow out into the sea swamps, protect it from the east. The entrance to the salt creek is from the west, the Indian Ocean side. This is all flat country, but in modern warfare flat coast around a base is regarded as far better for defense than hills - such has been the theory ever since the Japanese captured Port Arthur in 1905 by taking one of the surrounding hills with disregard of cost and then mounting guns to shoot right down into the base.

Japan's control of both the Pacific and the Indian Ocean sides of the Malay Peninsula now seems to be hampered only by the

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bold Dutch interference with destroyers, submarines and bombers in the narrow straits of Malacca which separate the two. This bold Dutch offensive is, according to Batavia reports, costing the Japs heavily, and we may expect a Japanese attempt to remove it by an attack upon the Dutch bases in force, at almost any time. Meanwhile, the Japanese are preparing for this attack by a landing upon the coast of Borneo - four hundred miles to the west of the Straits of Malacca, on that portion of the north Borneo Coast known as Sarawak, which is a little Mohammedan kingdom ruled by an English Rajah - the famous Rajah Brooks - the only white king of a Mohammedan state in the world.

The Japanese attacked on the oil coast of Borneo, but the immediate Japanese objective is not to get oil, since the oil installations were completely blown up and destroyed by the defenders as soon as the Japanese invaders appeared, and the Japanese have known that for several years the oil refineries and docks and even the oil wells up-country have been mined, ready for destruction at the throw of a switch. The Japanese objective in landing on Borneo is evidently to distract and scatter Dutch forces in preparation for an attempt to crush Dutch interference with Japan's attack on Singapore.

With control of the sea off the Malay Coast lost to Japan, and control of the air, at any distance from Singapore naval base, in doubt, the British position in Malaya can be very serious --

by far the most serious situation -- and really the only serious situation -- in the war thus far. The key point of the Malay Peninsula is the narrow Isthmus of Kra, two-thirds of its length up from Singapore, where the Gulf of Siam on the Pacific Ocean side is separated from the Gulf of Burma on the Indian Ocean side by only a twenty-five mile strip of brush-covered sand bar, with a few of those tin-containing limestone formations sticking up through the jungle like monuments. Through this key district run both the hard surface highway and the railroad, which connect the thick head of the long Malay Peninsula with both Siam and Burma. South of it are the tin-mining cities of Malay and the great British rubber port of Penang, properly called George-town, and finally the great port of Singapore.

Penang, an island a little off shore, running up to a peak climbed by a cable-car just like Hongkong, is being bombed. It is one of the best harbors on the Indian Ocean, with well developed port facilities, and if Japanese occupy it they would have a fine jumping off place for Rangoon - which is the docking end of the Burma Road - and for a submarine base against Calcutta and other ports in India, regardless of whether Singapore held out or not.

That this key region - the Isthmus of Kra - talked about as a base by the Japanese for fifteen years, and very seriously by the British for at least two, should suddenly be in the hands

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of a Japanese landing force instead of under the guns and bayonets of a most adequate British garrison, is the worst disappointment in the development of the war to date.

British loss of supremacy on the China Sea now enables the Japanese army to conduct a regular ferry service direct to the Isthmus of Kra from the depot of man-power which the Japanese have been building up for several years in big Hainan Island. The distance is about eleven hundred miles -- the transports go down the China Sea and then up the Gulf of Siam -- and can make it in three days. This Hainan Island, which is nearly as big as Haiti and San Domingo together, lies directly between the north tip of Luzon - northernmost of our Philippine Islands - and the big Japanese base in Indo-China, Hanoi.

The Japanese have made three landing attempts around our Luzon Island, and are clinging to the beaches, but not getting anywhere. Today, General MacArthur reported twenty-four of their planes destroyed on the beach and one shot out of the air. These Japanese assaults on the Phillipines are probably intended mostly to put our Manila base on the defensive and to tie up our forces so that they will not interfere with the Japanese transport of troops down the China Sea to reinforce the main attack on Malay.

The developing problem facing the Japanese seems to be whether or not

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American battle forces will interfere with Japanese moves toward Malay. Meantime, the British there are fighting against increasing odds.

Now, coming back to mid-Pacific, we learn that a Japanese submarine made a sally against one of the lesser islands of the Hawaiian group - the Island of Maui - destroying a pineapple plantation dock. An attack was made against a British out-post called Johnston Island, which lies half-way between the Hawaiians and the Japanese mandated group called the Marshall Islands. No non-Japanese has been able for years to get into these mandated Islands to see what Japan has been building there, in defiance of her League of Nations covenant, but it is to be assumed that Japan has submarine and air bases and sufficient naval force there to conduct a strong raid against the Hawaiian Islands - which are about eighteen hundred miles distant. Japanese strategy, long worked out, is that of posing before the American fleet the following alternatives: either retain the Main United States battle fleet in mid-Pacific for the protection of Hawaii, or send it into the China Sea for the salvation of Malaya, or split it in the hope of accomplishing both objectives.

Whether or not a naval base is able to protect itself without a watch-dog in the shape of a fleet, depends upon the adequacy of its bombing force. Whether or not half a fleet is adequate

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in a given situation, or worse than no fleet at all, must depend upon the amount of force, both sea and air, available for the attack against it. Upon such considerations must depend immediate developments in this Pacific War - a war in which strategy on a scale vaster than ever before known must play a decisive part.

Washington has taken quick action following Secretary Knox's personal investigation in Hawaii.

Secretary of the Navy Knox announced tonight that Rear Admiral Chester W. (Correct) Nimitz, U. S. Navy, has been ordered detached from his present duty as Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, and assigned to duty as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, relieving Admiral Husband E. Kimmel.

Admiral Kimmel has been relieved of command of the Pacific Fleet by Vice Admiral William S. Pye, U.S. Navy, Commander Battle Force and second in command of the Pacific Fleet, pending arrival of Admiral Nimitz. Admiral Kimmel will report for temporary duty in the 14th Naval District (Pearl Harbor, Hawaii).

Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, U.S. Navy, has been ordered from sea duty with the Atlantic Fleet to succeed Rear Admiral Nimitz as Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

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The Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, announced today that Lieutenant General Delos C. Emmons, Air Corps, has arrived at Honolulu with instructions to take over the command of the Hawaiian Department, relieving Lieutenant General Walter C. Short. General C. L. Tinker, Air Corps, is proceeding to Hawaii to take command of the air forces relieving Major General Frederick L. Martin

These changes are made in view of the preliminary report of the Secretary of Navy, with whose views as to the unpreparedness of the situation on December 7th the Secretary of War concurs, and to expedite the reorganization of the air defenses in the Islands.

This action avoids a situation where the officials charged with responsibility for the future security of this vital naval base would otherwise at this critical hour also be involved in the searching investigation ordered yesterday by the President.

Sun Day
UPTON CLOSE - NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, RED, DEC. 21, 10 A.M. PST-S.F.

This is going to be a war of amazing stories once they come out.

There is the story of the Japanese occupation of Guam in which it is said that in order to procure definite information about American defenses the Japanese several months ago purposely wrecked a ship on the reefy southern end of Guam.

This was their way of getting men ashore on the island, forbidden to observers by the United States Navy. The spies of course counted upon the humanitarianism and hospitality of our officers and men to shipwrecked human beings.

According to the story the Japanese Naval authorities offered to send a ship into Guam to pick up shipwrecked sailors and our officers there had sufficient sense of humor to offer to deliver them in an American ship on the nearest Japanese mandated island, but the Japanese got the better of the exchange of courtesies and we finally turned over to them their self-shipwrecked Intelligence men out at sea. Whether or not this story be true, the student of Japanese history knows that to use or misuse the shipwrecked persons is an old Japanese custom. Back in 1842 when American Clipper ship merchants with the support of their government were very curious about the then hermit kingdom of Japan some shipwrecked Japanese fishermen in pitiable condition were picked up on the coast of what is now Oregon state. They had been blown all the way across the Pacific. Our Navy sent Commodore Biddle, an ancestor of our present Attorney-General and Ambassador, who bears the Biddle name, to return

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the shipwrecked Japanese to their own country...and no doubt to see what he could see in the course of his mission of mercy. The Japanese authorities in Yokohama promptly put him in his place by giving him perfunctory thanks for returning their nationals and then beheading the poor fellows before his eyes, in addition to which a couple of Samurai pushed the Commodore down in the dust of the primitive harbor. Commodore Biddle came back to become the first Japanophob in America and about nine years later Commodore Matthew Galbraith Perry was sent to renew courtesies but with the backing of enough gun boats to command more respect. Remembering this bit of history it is not impossible to credit the Guam story now going the rounds.

Then there is the story of Wake and the heroic and thus far successful resistance of a few Marines there-to Japanese assault. The American public and the world await the first full story of what has happened on that tiny dot in mid-Pacific. Our boys on Wake were fully awake as early as December 3 to the likelihood of a sudden Japanese assault for a letter dated December 3- four days before Japan's treacherous attack - has been received from one of them by his parents in the little town of Fallon, near Reno, Nevada. The young man who was engaged in construction work told of Japanese planes flying overhead and Japanese submarines poking about in the deep water just outside the reef. He wrote that he,

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with the other men expected an attack at almost any time, and they were drilling daily with the Marines stationed on the island. This makes the surprise delivered at Pearl Harbor yet the more surprising.

Then there is the story of how Japanese airplane carriers got within three hundred miles of the Hawaiian archipelago by sailing the great circle route through the Aleutian Islands sticking out from Alaska, and then dropped down an equal distance straight south to Hawaii. The rumors do not say how they got back or whether they got back and United States Navy isn't talking about that - yet. But the Aleutian Island area has been under the patrol of the United States Navy since 1933 when this observer, among others, raised the wind about the situation there in a series of syndicated articles. Up to that time the Aleutian Island chain had been under the control of Japanese deep sea crab fishing vessels and floating canneries, which were commanded by graduates of the Japanese Naval Academy, in uniform.

There is the story of the Japanese two-man submarine, supposed to be slid out of great water-level apertures in the stern end of mother ships in the neighborhood of naval bases or other objectives. The descriptions of these mother ships reminds me of the old Japanese-crab-fishing vessels, whose water-line apertures were used for hauling in huge deep-sea nets.

(END OF I)

Upton Close

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Dec. 27, 1941

#3

publicity for the purpose, as he expressed it, of buying, begging, stealing or borrowing any American plane he could get his hands on, and he assured me that once he got a plane to the islands, it stayed right there and received loving care against the day of need.

There is no question in anyone's mind as to the superiority of American aircraft over Japanese and in the matter of production material and facilities and even in the rate of production, the Japanese are pathetic by comparison. It was all a matter of where the planes were placed. War, of course, is always just that: just the fundamental questions of who, what with, where, and how much. That apparently there should have been more American planes under the Dutch flag than there were under the American flag in the West Pacific is the greatest shock of the third week of the War, and is a surprise of more far reaching consequences than the initial treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor. It is evident that the British were as denuded of air force in Hongkong and Malay as were we in the Philippines. This fact became evident when the great British battleships, Repulse and Prince of Wales, were sunk for lack of adequate protection from the air, and the entire development of this campaign has proved it.

Looking back now we see the scenario. Japan kept several thousand of her best planes out of the war with China and as the Russian air force in Siberia was pulled back, these planes

Upton Clegg

NBC Red

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were freed for offensive enterprises. These facts were well known to military experts, diplomats and newspaper men during the whole course of the Kurusu-Hull conversations. However, the British and American air forces in the south seas, we must believe, were sent on other assignments far distant from this front. Japan times her leap accordingly. Only the Dutch who kept their air force home, were prepared to sustain the Japanese impact. A small portion of the American air force from this area had gone up the Burma Road where it has been giving a good account of itself. But the Japanese, third rate flying power though they are, were able to take the air over Hongkong and the China Sea almost without dispute, and the Japanese army was able to transport tens of thousands of troops in any kind of tub that would float and land them on the shores of Luzon and Mindanao without even the landing equipment considered necessary in modern warfare. All of this because of absolute mastery of the air.

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For months now, ever since it became likely that the United States would be involved in war on both oceans, the question of how much of the United States fleet could be diverted to the Atlantic has been paramount. No one has been so foolhardy as to suggest that the United States fleet could maintain supremacy on the China Sea--practically home base for the almost equal Japanese battle fleet. The whole question was always placed upon the basis of the degree to which air force could replace naval force if and as our ships were pulled out of the vital defense areas. This week we are caught in

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the Philippines just as the British last week were caught in Malay, without that substitute air force.

The end of our third week of war finds us up against the stark fact that air power is paramount and that we and our allies are going to suffer major reverses until we can oppose air force with air force. Granted the impossible, that we never do recover mastery of the air in the Pacific, and mind you, I say this is not going to be done no matter what has gone before--but theoretically granting that Japan is to be left with the supremacy of the air, there is nothing to stop her from taking the Philippines and Singapore as completely as she has taken Hongkong, and then taking Midway, Johnston and Palmyra Islands, all of which are a few hours flight from Honolulu; then from those bases making Pearl Harbor untenable. Your own imagination could go on from there. Japanese air forces, planted in the Hawaiian chain, could devastatingly attack the American Pacific Coast. This is taking for granted that we continue to grant Japan complete supremacy of the air. Meanwhile, we can conduct no counter-attack upon the home islands of Japan--regardless of the declarations of Senator Wheeler and the others who feel that we are now justified to burn their cities without mercy-- I say, we can conduct no such counterattack so long as Japan has the dominance of the air over the northeast Pacific. On the contrary, if Japan retains such mastery of the air,

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she can establish bases on Kamchatka Peninsula of Siberia regardless of Russian protests, and even put way stations in our Aleutian Island chain, from which to assault us.

Now can our main battle fleet--which has not been heard from---so far as the public is concerned--since the morning of the attack on Hawaii three weeks ago, follow any wiser strategy than merely to keep out of the way of such air attacks as sank the British Prince of Wales and Repulse, until we have once more recovered the mastery of the air in the zone of operations.

That's the whole story, this beginning of the fourth week of the Great Pacific War. Why air force in the Pacific did not exist at the moment of the outbreak of War and whether or not we are able at this moment to answer the pathetic appeals for help coming from our people, armed forces, and friends in Manila is outside the province of this talk. But Americans know now what is needed and where it is needed. And Americans will see that it is supplied.

Upton Close NBC Red from S.F. Dec. 28, 1941 10:00 a.m., PST

American and Philippine soldiers are fighting heroically side by side in the same marsh lands and gashed hill country where forty years ago Runston's American Boys and Aguinaldo's bush fighters were stabbing one another. Side by side, now, the Americans and Filipinos push back at a surrounding flood of Japanese. It now has them ringed around from seven invasion points on the Island of Luzon. Their metropolis, Manila, lies undefended, and yet subject to attack at will by the enemy who has complete mastery of the air; and their food depots, water supplies, and ammunition dumps are bombed wherever they are spotted by the enemy.

The predicament of these heroic men is on the one hand a credit to our American optimism and faith in the good will of other men, and on the other hand a discredit to American intelligence. The desperate situation of General MacArthur and his men is the result of leaving only half defended a pawn to fate within the striking reach of a militaristic power. The ambition of politically-minded Filipinos to be rid of our surveillance no doubt was partly responsible for the lack of American interest in adequately protecting the islands, in spite of the fact that Japan for ten years now has been running berserk in that neighborhood. Perhaps the remark of a friend of mine that the Philippines represent a political mess that has degenerated into a military mess may be justified. But along with the responsibility of Filipino politicians, who desired to govern as the heads of an independent country, must be recorded the responsibility of the mass of American citizens who failed to comprehend the situation in the Pacific and who were indifferent to our essential job there.

General MacArthur can be counted upon to put up every ounce of resistance that is humanly possible with the men and material at his disposal--and a little bit more. But it is one of the keenest ironies of history that the only American full general in command of an army of the United States, the country which invented and largely developed the airplane, should now be fighting in medieval fashion on the ground while a nation of the yellow race, which came out of complete medievalism less than a century ago, and which has been our copycat in things modern, should have the domination of the air over the general's head, domination through unquestioned supremacy in war's most modern weapon, the airplane.

Frank charges of inefficiency are being leveled at British commanders in the south Asian area where the Japanese have scored such quick successes. There is the blast of Rajah Brooke of Sarawak--who himself is safe in Sydney, Australia as Japanese invaders burn the towns and occupy the oil fields of his kingdom on the north coast of Borneo. He said--I quote--"Brass hats and la-de-da Old School Ties and incompetence were in charge in Singapore." The British high command, while not endorsing this charge, nevertheless relieved Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, of his command of air, land and sea forces in Malaya and appointed energetic Sir Henry Pownall, new Commander-in-chief of British forces there. He's a career man who has been jumped over the heads of a hundred senior officers. Since Fore-Belisha started the rejuvenation of the British Army, three years ago, and the over-all command of Britain's ace General, Sir Archibald Wavell, has been extended to include Burma.

But whatever be the situation in the British command, the desperate situation in the Philippines is due not to "brass hat" command but to the absence of air force.

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This lesson of the third week of the war is lighted up as if by a searchlight beam by the example of the Dutch East Indies, whose record is 16 Japanese war vessels and transports sunk and five damaged in 21 days--that's one a day. This was all done by air force alone--save in two instances--and in those two it could not have been done without air force. Granted that the full force of Japanese attack has not yet been turned against the south sea islands, still it is obvious that the Japanese chose for their first impact those areas which were relatively without air defense and that the one area that possessed a degree of air strength has thus far more than held its own. The air force of the Dutch East Indies is practically all American made and equipped. A few weeks ago I talked with the commander of that air force in New York. He was visiting New York and Washington without publicity for the purpose as he expressed, of buying, begging, stealing or borrowing any American plane he could get his hands on, and he assured me that once he got a plane to the islands, it stayed right there and received loving care against the day of need.

There is no question in anyone's mind as to the superiority of American aircraft over Japanese, and in the matter of production material and facilities, and even in the rate of production, the Japanese are pathetic by comparison. It was all a matter of where our planes were placed. War, of course, is always just that: just the fundamental questions of who, what with, where, and how much. That apparently there should have been more American Planes under the Dutch flag than there were under the American flag in the West Pacific is the greatest surprise of the third week of the war, and it's a surprise that in far reaching consequences far surpasses the initial attack on Pearl Harbor. The British, too, were denuded of air force in Hongking and the Malay even as we were in the Philippines, which became evident when the great British warships, Prince of Wales and Repulse, were sunk for lack of adequate air protection and the Japanese navy took unhindered mastery of the China Sea and Gulf of Siam for lack of land bombers to drive them off.

It is a fairly established principal of war now that warships regardless of size dare not operate off shore within striking distance of patrolling land bombers. Flocks of transports cannot make shore and land troops in the face of bombing. Bombers, of course, require the protection of combat planes when in the air and on the ground, lest they become targets for suddenly invading enemy aircraft. It would seem that two hundred bombers with a complementary number of combat planes could have saved the Philippines, and two hundred bombers there now, with enough protecting fast planes to keep them from being shot out of the air by patrolling Japanese air squadrons, would probably be able to destroy the supply ships of the invaders and leave them stranded amid a hostile population. The tragic fact is that there were not two hundred bombers in the Philippines. If forty or fifty were there, these were largely destroyed on the ground on the day of surprise. We have been taught that the same thing can happen to us, through lack of equipment and alertness, that happened to France, to Norway, and years before that, to China.

We face the fact now in all its significance, that in spite of our talk for two years about the decisive importance of air force, and in spite of our excellence in manufacture, we were caught without air force on that front where America was most likely to be drawn into active combat, namely, the west Pacific, and caught by a third rate air power which is fourth rate in manufacture. For the good of our souls and the good of our very lives and homes in the future, let us admit this and learn from it and go on from there.

Japan's preparations in air force were public property. Japan had several thousand planes which she never used in her attack on China but was saving for other potential enemies, and this was well known. The best of these were kept on Russian border patrol and for defense of the Japanese Islands proper from attack from Siberia. But most of the Russian Siberian air force was weeks ago flown across Asia to the German front, releasing Japan's best air squadrons for use elsewhere. This also was well known. Alert correspondents in China had warned us over and over not to underestimate Japanese fliers, and to remember that they had learned a great deal in eight years of steady practice in China. That the Japanese air force actually possessed Messerschmidts or good replicas of that ace German machine was kept fairly secret until several of them appeared in attacks in Burma several days ago, but it was well known that the Imperial Hotel in Tokio swarmed with young German aviators and that Japanese airplane factories had German technicians as well as experts of their own race who were rapidly mastering their art. Japan had been making excellent airplane motors since 1933 and this was well known--I published it in a book in 1934--although some of our experts were thrown off the track by the fact that Japan continued to buy her automobile engines from us while making her own airplane motors.

A small portion of the American air force in the south seas had gone up the Burma Road before the fateful day of Dec. 7th, and there, flown by pilots released from the American Army to enlist under the Chinese flag, it has been giving a good account of itself. But the Japanese, third rate flying power though they are, seized a moment at which they could take the air over Hongkong and the China Sea and Manila without dispute after surprising a few British and American planes on their home fields. The way was thus opened for the Japanese army and navy under the wings of its third rate air force to transport several hundred thousand troops in every kind of tub that would float, and land them on the Philippine Islands and the Malay Peninsula without so much as landing equipment considered necessary in modern warfare--all this because there was nothing to oppose them in the air.

The third week of war has brought home to us how desperate and how long is going to be this struggle for the mastery of the Pacific. It has shown how shrewdly Japan's general staff planned to take advantage of official American interest in other sectors of the world war and how completely it was able to carry out those plans; in spite of all the warnings flashed high on the storm clouds of the Pacific, that if we let down our guard on this front, Japan would strike us. It has rubbed off the slate, the child's talk about "going out and getting Japan between breakfast and luncheon." No direct assault can be made on the Japanese Islands by us either alone or in collaboration with Russia until we have air force in quantity designated for use in the Pacific. This may quite possibly explain Russia's reluctance to precipitate hostilities with Japan. Russia's air force so far is presumably very much engaged at the moment in regions thousands of miles from the Pacific. It is overwhelmingly evident that the excellent products of American airplane factories are in similar case.

Two great obstacles stand in the way of any rescue effort of General MacArthur's forces in Luzon by our main battle fleet: waters around the nests of Japanese tiny islands which that fleet would have to pass through between Hawaii and the Philippines. The other is the Japanese-dominated air in the whole south sea region. The fleet cannot proceed through these two obstacles save under perilous risk unless it proceeds slowly, wiping out each obstacle as it goes, and it cannot clear either the sea of submarines or the air of hostile bombers without a powerful accompanying air force.

Such an air force will have to be transported on carriers rapidly made by putting flat decks on the tops of merchant vessels just as Japan has done.

The loss of the Philippines, for which we must now be prepared, may change the attitude of many Americans that we need not be concerned over what happens in the Pacific so long as the Axis is being beaten back on other fronts and the British Isles are holding out. We must be prepared for quick changes on the African and near-Eastern fronts. A German drive through Turkey or mass air assault in north Africa may convince us that after all, the front on which we can do the most the soonest--indeed maybe compelled to do it--is the Pacific front.

It would now seem that we must give up thought of going through the Pacific directly to the Philippines or directly against Japan from Honolulu until we have turned out our best aircraft in great quantity. This will be a matter of two or more years. Meanwhile we must fight the Pacific war by going around the Japanese island nests through the far southern Pacific via Australia and the Dutch East Indies. This is a tremendous distance of ten to twelve thousand miles. It would seem that our strategy must be to turn Australia into a vast depot of manpower and war supplies. That probably means that the great American Expeditionary force of this war will be to Australia, where several million men will be needed. From this great bastion we shall have to fight our way back through the Dutch East Indies toward Singapore and once more to contact with China. We can hope that this enormous task will be lightened by the sturdy resistance of the Dutch Indies and the holding out of Singapore.

Just about the worst possible has happened for us in the west Pacific. This at least, fellow Americans, is a comfort. It has happened for the lack of a few hundred planes, and this, my friends, is a warning. Now your sons and mine go forth into the fray and we take up the tasks at home.

UPTON CLOSE

SATURDAY JANUARY 3, 1942

4:00-4:30 PM PST

SF PORTION 4:22 -4:29-40 PM PST.

PROGRAM OPENS IN WASHINGTON WITH EARL GODWIN AND WILLIAM HILLMAN. CUE FROM WASHINGTON TO ROBERT ST.

JOHN IN LONDON APPROX. 4:15 PM PST.

UPTON CLOSE: Our firstmonth of war has seen initial success of Japan's long planned schedule of knocking the United States out of the West Pacific the minute we moved enough of our fighting strength in air and on sea out of the Pacific. The Japanese victory of the first month of the great Pacific War has been exactly in ratio to the extent to which Japanese air force outnumbered American and allied air force. It's speed has been determined by the fact that Japanese preparations and equipment were greater than generally suspected and United States equipment on the other hand was diminished below the point generally suspected.

In just that same ratio the results have been a surprise to both the American and Japanese people. The outburst of war itself was a surprise to both peoples

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Upton Close

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UPTON CLOSE :(Cont)

since the Japanese war lords who planned the assault did not let their people in on it any more than they did us. Our state of unpreparedness to meet that assault was hardly anticipated by these people, and the rapidity of their war lord's successes at the expense of their own wealth and the blood of their own sons has left them, too, a but breathless.

The difference is that the Japanese people at large, thoroughly scared at the outbreak of war, remain still scared at the end of their first month of rapid victory. You may be sure that the thinking ones among them are even more scared now than they were at the first astounding news that they were in war with us and Britain. In our defeat we are humiliated and wounded --- and not the least frightened --- in fact very much the opposite-- which wordly-wise Japanese well know. But in their victory they are still frightened for they know that that victory must and will backfire unless we quit fighting, and the many among them who know us, know that we will not quit fighting.

However, it is high time for us to summarize our losses and plan the strategy of the future.

UPTON CLOSE

3.

UPTON CLOSE (continued)

As to losses let us remember that we have not lost one actual naval base. We have lost a lot of geographical names that much of the American public may have assumed had been made into naval bases but which never were so made by Congress. Cavite on the underlip of Manila Bay, now occupied by the Japanese, is not a naval base but merely a navy yard -- and there is a vast difference. The United States had no naval base in the Pacific Ocean west of Pearl Harbor. The development of bases in Midway, Guam and Wake were merely in the experimental stage, and there were local geographical and geological conditions in each, which made it doubtful as to whether real bases could ever be placed at these points.

However, these points might have been made first class air bases, and if they had been, we would have had dominance of the West Pacific.

The Tiny Island of Corregidor which lies between the jaws of Manila Bay is not a naval base at all. It has no harbor, it is merely a great rock rising abruptly in the narrow mouth of the bay-- a sort of exaggerated Alcatraz Island, a remnant of the mountain chain along the east coast of Luzon, left where the China Sea breaks through into the low country beyond to form Manila Bay.

UPTON CLOSE NBC RED - DEC. 21

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see fit to do so. And the deepest mystery of all is that up to the moment of speaking neither Tokyo or Moscow has said a word.

The whole palpitating Pacific holds its breath awaiting the answer.

If the South Seas are to be lost for the time being to the quick-acting Japanese forces and Free China is to be thus cut off from our supplies, then any early victory must depend upon the assault of the main fortress of the enemy, the Japanese archipelago itself. The feasibility of that assault must depend upon the position of Russia. Rumors floated over Washington last night of a coming conference between Stalin, Churchill and President Franklin D. Roosevelt. That may be the answer, or something shockingly different but upon it everything now depends in the Pacific.

END.

3

UPTON CLOSE NBC RED - DEC. 21

#9

their palaces by exclusive cable car, the English official aristocracy, and on the very summit the drab palace of the Governor himself, where a few British and Canadian soldiers were still holding out last night and refusing the offers of the Japanese General and Admiral for honorable surrender - a gesture which successful Japanese Commanders love to make and which was successfully made in the sieges of Port Arthur and Tsingtao.

IV.

Well, there's one more story to emerge from the mists which hang over this whole fantastic picture - Japan, which talked of attacking Vladivostok during the whole time that she talked negotiation with America and Britain did not attack Russia, and all that came out of Russia was a statement from Prokva that Japan had sealed her doom but then Prokva has frequently said that capitalistic Britain and America had sealed their dooms also. And then Hitler began withdrawing his pressure upon Russia - whether from necessity or intent still remains a mystery, but last night his mouthpiece Goebbels set forth the condition of German troops in Russia in terms so abject as to give reasonable grounds for suspicion. Then to deepen the mystery came Batavia's official announcement that fourteen Japanese planes had attacked the Russian freighter "Perekop" in Malacca Strait. German propaganda radio jumped in to say that the attacking planes were not Japanese but British, as if to give Tokyo and Moscow a hint of how to avoid making this a showdown between them should they

assisted by a little token force of Britishers. That siege lasted two months and three weeks and I was very familiar with it, for I went in and out of it in Chinese costume and it is where I got the designation "Up Close." But this time the Japanese have air force and Hong Kong, intrinsically far stronger than either Port Arthur or Tsingtao, was entered by the enemy in scarcely two weeks. The lesson is plain, it is the same old lesson of mastery of the air.

The pandemonium and misery among Hong Kong's Chinese refugee population swelled from one million to two million by the war in China crowded almost body to body around the narrow foreshore at the foot of the high central peak of the little island must only be imagined until some escaping reporter brings out the story. Part way up the peak where the residences of the wealthy and aristocratic Chinese - also crowded with refugees of wealth and busy representatives of the free Chinese Government, higher up still, where the marble palaces of the Eurasian aristocracy: high-bred, sensitive, successful people, who combine some of the best blood of East and West, as for instance the Chinese-English Hotungs, who boast knighthoods from English thrones, and the Bushes - back-bay Boston on one side and old Chinese Christian on the other. And then on the last thousand feet reaching

The Pacific coast factories of the United States make far better planes and no doubt make more planes than the cramped factories of Japan. Australia's assembly lines have turned out a fair number. Singapore has been one of the main depots for the products of these factories, but when the need came the planes were not in the air and the result was doom nullifying every other preparation and leaving only bravery as a monument. This too is a story yet to come in its details out of the Pacific.

III.

But to go back to the romance of Hong Kong. If Hong Kong falls, it will be the latest feather in the Japanese cap of successful sieges. On February 8, 1904 the Japanese assaulted the Russian naval stronghold of Port Arthur, a deep basin surrounded by a ring of high hills, heavily fortified. For six months they invested the place and General Nogi finally took it by sending wave after wave of Japanese infantry up one of the hills until the Russian landside guns were literally choked with Japanese dead. Then from the hilltop he turned the big Russian guns against their own ships and harbor works. The Japanese monument to their dead at Port Arthur stands over the ashes of some thirty thousand men who were the incidental cannon fodder in that assault. On August 23, 1914, Japanese forces invested the German port of Tsingtao on the China coast from land and sea -

Upton Close NBC Red Dec. 27, 1941

#2

that we need not be concerned over anything whatever that might happen in the Pacific so long as Hitler is being destroyed and the British Isles are holding out. It has shown how shrewdly Japan's general staff planned to take advantage of official American interests in other sectors of the World War and how completely they carried out those plans in spite of all the warnings flashed high on the storm clouds of the Pacific--that if we exposed ourselves on this flank, Japan would strike us.

The lesson of the third week of the war is lighted up as if by a searchlight beam by the example of the Dutch East Indies, whose record is 16 Japanese war vessels and transports sunk, five damaged in 21 days---that's one a day. This was all done with air force alone save in two instances and in those it could not have been done without airforce. Granted that the full force of Japanese attack has not yet been turned against the south sea islands, still it is obvious that the Japanese chose for their first impact those areas which were relatively without air defense and that the one area that possessed a degree of air strength has thus far more than held its own. The air force of the Dutch East Indies is practically all American made and equipped. A few weeks ago I talked with the commander of that air force in New York. He was visiting New York and Washington without

Upton Close NBC Red Dec. 27, 1941. From S.F. 4:20-4:27 pm., PST
"Third Week of War Roundup"

The third week of the War in the Pacific, climaxing with the ruthless bombing of Manila last night, teaches us once again an essential lesson of War, and brings out into the open the basic question of American strategy. The essential is that without mastery of the air, a first class power is helpless before the onslaught of a war weary third class power. The question of basic strategy is the old question of the extent to which America's job is in the Pacific.

Premier John Curtin of Australia is outspoken about that job. In a special article for one of Australia's greatest newspapers, the Melbourne Herald, he says that this is a War in the Pacific and that Australians refuse to accept the Pacific struggle as subsidiary to events elsewhere. His actual words are cabled as follows: "This is not a phase of the struggle against the Axis!" What he means is that for those in the Pacific this is the main struggle and must be fought as such. He goes on to say that in this struggle the interests of Australia and the United States are one, and their primary task is cut out for them at their own door.

The third week of war has brought home to us how desperate is going to be this struggle for mastery of the Pacific. It has rubbed off the slate the child's talk about going out and getting Japan between breakfast and luncheon. It has made quite secondary in the American consciousness, the arguments

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And there is the story of how Japan has taken over Thailand by mental telepathy, or something almost as instantaneous, in spite of all the brave talk of the Siamese Premier and Regent whose son was to have been admitted to our West Point by special act of Congress this week. That story too remains to be clarified and I am waiting to hear from my old friend the American Minister to Bangkok, Mr. Willys R. Peck.

II.

Mystery awaits the fate of Americans caught in Japan, China and on the islands of the sea by Japanese forces. We are assured through the Argentine diplomatic service which is looking after the interests of Americans in Japan that the American Embassy staff is safe and comfortable within the elegant Embassy Compound in Tokyo, and we may assume that official and officer Americans are being cared for according to the book. But what of all the unofficial Americans: the traders, missionaries and newspaper men? What of a man like J. B. Powell, editor of the China Weekly Review in Shanghai? whom the Japanese Military have hated for twenty years for exposing their cruelties, corruption and designs. And what of the American passengers on the Tatsuta Maru who had received proper repatriation papers from Japanese authorities but were, according to rumors, thrown into common jails when the Tatsuta got back into Tokyo Bay after having got within one day's sail of Honolulu. Those of us who have

UPTON CLOSE - NBC RED - Dec. 21

#5

some first hand acquaintance with Japanese military and police methods and facilities feel quite sure that the condition of Americans in the power of Japanese authorities is in striking contrast to that of Japanese here. Japanese aliens not regarded as dangerous are permitted to work at their ordinary jobs at their usual pay and draw as high as a \$1000 per month per family from their bank accounts for living expenses and taxes. The American in an unheated Japanese jail will be lucky to be getting two rations a day of weak soy bean milk. In contrast is the graphic description given by a Japanese houseman to his mistress in San Francisco this morning of the condition of suspect Japanese aliens in detention here. She asked him if he had enough work to live. "I no worry," he said, "if not enough I ask Sheriff put me in jail. Big Japanese business man in American jail have better bed than he have at home. Have very good cooking by Chinese cook. Chinese cook he make me chop suey Ever' day!"

(END OF 2)

The biggest story out of the Pacific awaited in detail - the story of the assault of Hong Kong - this tragedy is the tragedy of unpreparedness - unpreparedness in the air which, despite all the lessons since our own Billy Mitchell and since Britain's withdrawal from Norway was the situation over the entire West Pacific area, after Japan leaped. The concrete-embedded guns on towering Hong Kong Island could outshoot

any field guns that the Japanese could place on much lower China coastal shore or mount on ships and no one believed that Hong Kong island could be taken save by long starvation siege. It is obvious that its reduction save for a little Honor Battalion of Death holding the peak, has been accomplished because the Japanese forces took the mastery of the air. The strategic isthmus of Kra has been lost for the same reason. The great rubber port of Penang has been devastated and thousands of its Hindoo, Malay and Chinese civilians slaughtered by merciless bombings of the type which Chung King has suffered - and you know what that means if you have seen the picture "Ku Kan." Singapore base is gravely threatened, Rangoon is under bombings and the Japanese are on the Indian Ocean, the only consolation being the British claim to have destroyed their fine port of facilities at Penang. All this because the Japanese immediately took and still retain the mastery of the air over Malaya. On the other hand, the one area where they do not have the mastery of the air, namely the Dutch East Indies - the area where the Dutch authorities humbly admitted inadequacy of equipment, but constantly pleaded for more, and where they purchased every American plane they could get their hands on and carefully hoarded each plane - that area records a steady list of Japanese transports, destroyers and tankers sunk or damaged.

UPTON CLOSE(Continued)

Corregidor rock is purely an army fortification, designed when there was no thought of aviation, garrisoned by an artillery regiment and intended to prevent a hostile navy from entering the bay. Once the enemy is in possession of Manila, of the Cavite navy yard, and the rest of the country behind Corregidor, the rock itself is of no value, for it does not, like Gibralter, command the entrance to a larger sea.

At the depth of forty to two hundred feet under its flat top, this table-like rock has been riddled with tunnels and underground grooves and gun emplacements made by Filipino chain gangs working in groups of 2000 at a time. The plan has always been that at the outbreak of seige, the fine officer's homes and other structures on top of the rock would be razed to the ground and everyone take up residence in the catacombs which can accomodate several thousand persons. Two years supply of food and ammynition are supposed to be on hand. That the seige has already begun in earnest we know from the report of last night's bombing by sixty Japanese planes, three of which were reported shot down by the rock's anti-aircraft guns.

UPTON CLOSE: (continued)

Prolonged resistance, here, although dramatic, can have only one practical value and that is its prestige and moral effect in encouraging the resistance of the Filipino population to acceptance of Japanese rule.

The disability of prolonged resistance on this rock has always been considered by staff men to lie in the very drama of it. They have always feared that it would so grip the hearts of the American public that popular demand might inspire a premature rescue expedition which might be entrapped by the enemy.

Come then to the reality of what we have lost and what the enemy has gained in the Philippines at this end of the fourth week of war. Japan has freed some forces for the main drive on Malay and the Dutch East Indies. Her still undamaged air squadrons can go on to that task, no doubt. But the spirit of the Filipino populace is not yet broken and a very considerable Japanese force of occupation must remain to fight General Mac Arthur's remaining centers of resistance at Olangapo, on the north lip of the bay opposite Corregidor Rock, and to police the Philippine people. Japan has gained the iron mines of the Philippines --- a very important factor for her war machine. Their output of good ore is not large

UPTON CLOSE (continued)

but it did provide the pig upon which Japan's furnaces relied for mixture with their low grade Manchurian ore and the huge piles of scrap they acquired from us.

The Japanese steel industry was allowed to purchase the Philippine iron ore output long after steel and scrap were shut off from here because of the business needs of Philippine operators and the employment needs of Philippine workmen. Japanese resentment mounted rapidly when the Philippine ore was cut off during the Kurusu-Hull negotiations.

Japan also now avails herself of Philippine hemp and above all coconut and other vegetable fats, which have been one of her greatest lacks., as well as that of her ally, Germany. After Philippine fats were shut off from Japan--- also not long before the end of the negotiations -- the Japanese people, normally great soap users, had to do without soap entirely.

But the really important factor of gain and loss is that of our prestige. To what extent have the people

Upton Close

7.

UPTON CLOSE (continued)

of the entire yellow and mongol races lost confidence in our strength, ability and determination -- with the rising power of Japan? These are really the vital questions in the picture. Thanks to the fighting heart of the Filipino people, which we have evidence to believe is still with us, our loss is not yet disastrous on the prestige front. Yet those who know the Asiatic mind from Siberia to India know that not many more such defeats can be suffered by white armies without deep history-making losses on this vital front -- the front of prestige

This is the most overlooked of several prime matters of strategy in this Pacific War. It is, a matter in which the new overall Commander, British General Wavell, with his experience among the Moslems and Hindus knows well, as he takes the supreme responsibility of the first real strategy for fighting the Pacific War.

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Upton Close

8.

CLOSEING (IN SF)

ANNOUNCER (IN SF):

You have just heard THIS WEEK OF WAR --- an NBC Presentation summarizing and interpreting events of the past week on the war fronts of the world. Heard on today's program were the National Broadcasting Company's noted news analysts Earl Godwin and William Hillman, in Washington; Robert St. John, who spoke from London; and Upton Close, heard from the San Francisco news room.

This is the National Broadcasting Company.

UPTON CLOSE

SUNDAY - JANUARY 4, 1942

10:00-10:15 A.M. KPO RED & EAST

ANNOUNCER From the NBC newsroom in San Francisco, the National Broadcasting Company presents Upton Close, Distinguished analyst of far Eastern affairs.

Mr. Close.

CLOSE: The fall of Manila brings out into the open the viewpoints of the differing American schools of thought about this war. Americans who still believe that they are masters of their own destiny are compelled now to examine these viewpoints and out of them choose a strategy based upon one or the other, or better still upon a logical fusion of the two, if such a thing be possible.

Strategy means in the simplest language the opposite of getting on one's horses and riding off in all directions at once.

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(CON'T)

Strategy is what up to now the aggressive nations have heeded, and their victims, the nations put on the defensive, have lacked. Without strategy there can be no victory in this war. In the days of cash and carry neutrality we fought the war with emotions. After the lend-lease act we fought by providing tools to other workmen--or so we told ourselves. But the loss of our outposts in the west Pacific in one month of war--climaxing by the fall of Manila, the city which we took so easily from a decaying Spanish empire in 1898--is the warning that we must fight from now on with strategy, or suffer reverse after reverse at the hands of enemies who use strategy against us.

We have a new unified command. Next must come a strategy of victory. Many Americans, hungry for the strong meat of truth about what has happened to them, their soldiers and their ships, are asking more than the milk and water consolation of a few miles of scorched earth gained back by Soviet armies in mid-Russia, or the latest reverse to General Rommel in the windswept sands where the Sahara Desert meets the sea.

(MORE)

(CON'T)

American men whose fathers were proud of the extension of American influence and American ideals into the far Pacific and citizens of this government whose prime foreign policy was for three administrations the maintenance of dominant American sea power in the Pacific, seek to go deeper into the question.

We have an old clash with the aggressive power of the yellow race in the Pacific. We have a fairly recent recurrent clash with the aggressive power of Europe in the Atlantic. These two clashes have now united into a two-ocean war---war on both sides---total war for us.

Now there is the school of thought which sees Europe as the center of the world. It is occupied with the menace of Hitler's Germany almost to the exclusion of the picture to the west. Some of its proponents are swayed more strongly by sympathy for particular portions of Europe such as the British Isles or the over-run democracies of the continent or, in the case of some, by a feeling for the Communist regime as such in Russia, than they are for the prime consideration of the winning of the war as a whole.

(MORE)

Close

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(CON'T)

Some are swayed more by hate of the brutal Nazis and the desire to avenge their victims than by the motive of winning the war as a whole and establishing a basis for a new world. These feelings are human enough, but they are not constructive enough.

Now for us Americans, as for the British people and others, two considerations must hold good. One is the saving of our country and two is the saving of the world, or to put it in the practical terms of the Washington talks, the saving of the united cause subscribed to by twenty six governments--which we must accept with all faith as the first practical plan for the saving of the world. We believe that the saving of our individual country and the saving of the world shall be synonomous accomplished--and so they shall be unless lack of strategy leads us into continued defeat and the final desperate logic of "save himself who can" -- every man for himself.

In all optimism and confidence in our allies in the united cause let us then examine frankly, and briefly, the two divergent approaches to the struggle.

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One viewpoint assumes that it was all right for the offensive to have been undertaken in north Africa in the midst of the developing Japanese movement in the west Pacific, and that it was wisdom to back the Italian offensive and the Russian rally against the German putsch with so much of our equipment that we were unable to hold the west Pacific. This theory of strategy assumes that by cleaning Hitler out of north Africa and empowering the Russian push-back against German armies in east Europe we can wreck Hitler, overthrow the German military machine, and remove the menace on the European flank while holding the menace on our Pacific flank in a static condition safely beyond Pearl Harbor. Now just how true have such assumptions proved to date and how likely of further fulfillment?

Hitler is still capable of creating a stalemate on the Russian front, a diversion on the western end of the Mediterranean through France and Spain into the colonies of west Africa, and a drive through Turkey into the vulnerable heart of the British Empire which lies between the ribs of Egypt and India.

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And if Japan meanwhile, be able to drive through Siam and Burma and across the Malay Peninsula into the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean, and to seek a conjunction with the German forces in fermenting India, then this strategy, instead of surrounding and binding Hitler, would prove to have given him his most dangerous outlet.

And so he may well consider that advancing Japan at this point is his most valuable ally in the entire war and may well give Japan the utmost support of his air technicians and enormous plane production.

We would be wise to look at Hitler's changes of victory from his viewpoint as well as from the viewpoint of our own optimism and faith. It is not impossible that that guileful strategist would consider the prospect of revolutionary turmoil in India and Burma, and the hope of oil from Persia, and tin, rubber and fats from the Dutch East Indies, to be a profitable exchange for the Lybian Desert and a few thousand square miles of the twice-scorched earth of Russia.

Now let us look at this theory of sacrificing the Pacific to European offensives, particularly from the angle of Japan in the Pacific.

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Any further weakening of American force in the Pacific, or even indeed, the failure to materially strengthen that force in the very near future, would enable Japan to assault Johnston Island, only seven hundred miles directly west of the Hawaiians, and Palmyra Island, nine hundred miles south, as well as Midway, eight hundred miles northwest; and then on these little Islands to establish land bombing bases which would drive our fleet out of Pearl Harbor-- a lucky stretch of weather such as sometimes occurs in the windswept north Pacific might even enable a naval and air-superior Japan to plant land bombing bases on our Aleutian Island chain or on the coast of Alaska from which to strafe our great aircraft factories in Seattle and southern California. This would, indeed, be an extreme development out of the strategy of putting everything in Europe at the expense of the Pacific--but in the face of present facts, far from an impossible development.

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Now let us take up the opposite viewpoint. The viewpoint that America's war responsibility is primarily and overwhelmingly in the Pacific. That viewpoint basically rests upon the belief that the Pacific basin, rather than Europe, is the coming center of the world and is at this time the main theater in which future world destiny is being played out. That theory takes seriously the Japanese philosophy that the white nations of the world are mutually destroying one another and that as they do so, Japan will gradually assume the position of the world's greatest naval, military and economic power and will gradually gather under the banner of her success the overwhelming populations of the other Asiatic nations including those of China and India as well as of the Dutch East Indies and Malaya. Seen from this viewpoint, the immediate checking of Japan is of the greatest importance, for the most strategic area of the earth is that belt of Asia extending through the Bay of Bengal across India and China to the Russian border. Japan is now in possession of Penang and other bases in Malaya and Siam from which she can strafe Rangoon, the gateway port of the Burma Road, and perhaps even bomb Calcutta and launch submarines

ANSWER TO THE LETTER OF MR. W.

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Should this situation materialize, it could be impossible to guarantee the continued fidelity of India to the British Empire, and free China would be cut off from the essential supplies she is getting from us. The continued resistance of Chiang Kai-Shek's armies against those of Japan's puppet government in China would become precarious. Yet it is upon this resistance most overwhelmingly that America must rely for our hope of complete victory over Japanese imperialism, and ultimate reconstruction of the Pacific.

In all this, Soviet Russia is the great enigma. The Soviet regime can be counted upon to fight bravely and effectively for its own existence. Beyond this, otherwise strategists find it safest to reckon Russia as a continuing enigma.

Viewed from these considerations of reality, the fall of Manila sounds in the ears of Americans a siren warning of the necessity for composing an immediate and real American strategy toward this world war. The fall of Manila is humiliation and loss rather than defeat, but it is the last good loss in the Pacific which we may permit without very real defeat for us.

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So far, Japan has traded blood for space plus a little Philippine iron and some very valuable Philippine fats and some tin and manganese and chrome and tungsten and some of the best rubber and tin country of Malaya. But any further victories of Japan to the south and west would be for her not merely a trade of men for additional territory, but a trade of blood for the most essential war supplies -- an exchange which Japan can well afford and which is entirely in her favor. The tin, oil and rubber of the Dutch East Indies and the remainder of Malaya are all that is needed by Japan now for her unlimited military development; and these same supplies, it must be remembered, are also the essential articles needed by the German war machine for the indefinite prolongation of its vicious life.

Now, it is obvious that the whole immediate value of the Twenty-six Power Pact that was this week consummated in Washington -- so far as the Pacific war goes - lies in the collaboration arranged between us who are on this side, and the British and the Dutch who are in the middle, and the Chinese who are on the other side of the Pacific war.

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(I repeat and emphasize that this comprises the whole immediate value of this new pact for the Pacific front, since that pact is specifically worded to mean that Russia will not engage Japan at this time -- such an engagement can not be looked for until either Russia or Japan sees some immediate advantage in it for itself) -- The collaboration between the United States, the British and the Dutch possessions and dominions, and China, existed already in spirit, and is merely formalized and placed under unified command by the new pact, but if this collaboration be broken by further Japanese victories in the Dutch East Indies, Malay and the Bay of Bengal, then China, our firmest ally of the other side of the Pacific -- and our toughest helper in the ultimate trans-Pacific settlement, will be cut off from us and cut off from the British and the Dutch as well. Such a development would be a defeat as real for us -- and consequently for our allies in the world war as the loss of the Mediterranean would be for Britain. In fact, immediate exigency, and even the weight of importance between the two -- if one or the other should have to be temporarily sacrificed, would today appear to lie in the strategic sector where the Pacific and Indian Oceans meet.

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Economically, this is the area which supplies more than 50% of modern war than any other part of the whole earth, and from the political angle, if this area be lost, then India may be lost to Britain and America as well as from us.

Such do we find to be the shape of things at this critical beginning of the second month of the Great War of the Pacific. If we should let the devil loose in that war, continue to go against us that war could yet prove to be an even greater war than it is - the dredged war perhaps between East and West - the war between an ambitious new Asia gradually brought under the fold of imperialistic, militaristic Japan and a too-long carelessly Euro-American that let the Japanese philosophy develop to the point where it could take advantage of the recurrent wars between the nations of the White race. This is the situation on the Pacific basin which all students of the Pacific picture have wanted us for so long and against this picture knowledge must be forthcoming, and against this picture, America fore-warned will quickly proceed to see that she is fore-armed. This is the picture I ask you to consider as we look at the war at the beginning of the second month,

Thank You,

ANNOUNCEMENT
From the USO members in San Francisco, we have
presented Captain Oliver J. D'Amato, USN, and
Eastern Affairs, to the San Francisco Chapter
of the USO.

4-1/3-15

1.

UPTON CLOSE

JANUARY 7, 1942.

4:45-5:00 P.M. PST - NBC Blue Network

ANNOUNCER: From the San Francisco Newsroom, The National Broadcasting Company presents Upton Close, distinguished authority on Far Eastern affairs. Mr. Close.

UPTON CLOSE: President Roosevelt's program announced yesterday, backed by the budget announced today must certainly go down in history as the turning point in American life. In respect to the war, it is to be noted by our enemies as well as by our allies, that this nation is setting out to put everything it has got into war effort. Germans and Japanese will have nothing on us for single-minded sacrifice by the time we are putting out from sixty-five to seventy per cent of our national income to war expenses.

In the Pacific theater of war the prime importance of the President's speech is the promise of rapidly provided air power. We are going to be pretty helpless to prosecute that war until we have such air power. The American people have had to learn that even the United States fleet, second to none, on the seas, and a fighting organization of which we are proud can not even go into action as an offensive until it gets eyes and

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feelers and vanguard protection in the shape of fighter planes.

We have had to accept the surprise fact to most of us that we did not have equality in the air in the West Pacific, in spite of the advancement of aircraft production which President Roosevelt referred to in his speech opening Congress yesterday. Some day, when it is no longer an essential military secret, the ordinary American citizen as well as historians will be tremendously interested in following the story of American airplane production and allocation during 1940 and 41. What concerns us all immediately is production and allocation during 1942. The dominant need now is to reach the production which President Roosevelt has set as our national goal and which so far as people on this Coast are concerned is needed not only to win the war but actually to protect the great production centers of this Coast from sudden attack. This need can be supplied by two factors, faithful labor and efficient management. It is certainly not to be wondered at that there are complaints of inefficiency and waste in an industry that has expanded with such tremendous rapidity. I do get letters from very responsible people which I think it is fair and wise to

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mention. Here is one. I quote: "There seems to be so much waste in valuable material such as bolts and screws and so forth. So much of the time is spent by employees in sitting around and talking. Just the other evening, many employees in one section of our plant stood around for forty-five minutes until quitting time in order to be sure they could collect overtime." Another story runs, quote, "Several of us were sitting around with nothing to do. Suddenly we were told to appear busy, to do something. Shortly the reason for this outburst was obvious. Government inspectors were coming through." Now of course we Americans all agree with the writer of this letter who says - quote - "These are just a few samples, but this sort of thing burns me up". Of course this sort of thing is the thing that loyal workmanship and efficient management will rapidly overcome. The American people at large, about to begin sacrifices now in their manner of life such as residents on this American hemisphere have never before known, will demand and will get an efficient management, for those are far from being new or unknown qualities in American industry. They are qualities for which we have been famous throughout the world and which we shall now use to win.

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While speaking of letters, which I rarely do, I have never had so many highly intelligent letters from so many substantially and intelligent citizens as lately and it makes me very proud of the listening public of radio. I can't begin to answer or refer to the mail but now and then there's one with a flavor that's too good to be missed by his fellow listeners. Here's one more of this sort and then no more of it. "My dear Mr. Close. You say that facts you mention were well known for several years, that you wrote a book about them, and the bad situation in the Philippines was due to the indifference of the American public. Speakers and writers such as you, seem to think that once they have stated their observations, their duty is done. Let that big Lout, the Public, take it from there. You know very well, that what is everybody's business is nobody's business. That poor ignorant mutt, John Public, is blamed for everything, and has to foot the bills for all the brainier men, his elected and appointed leaders do, and for all they leave undone. Don't misunderstand me. I don't mean we should not prosecute the war with all possible vigor." Well I'm going to break one more custom and make a pun. The writer of that letter is a "Mr. Utter" and I just say "utterly right."

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So much for this. Where are we in the Great Pacific War this evening? Well, get out your maps or refer to that mental map in your mind. The Nipponese forces while hemming in and harrassing General MacArthur's forces in the hills near Manila Bay and on Rocks of Corregidor which stands up in the mouth of the Bay, are turning their prime attention in the Philippines area, to developing a base and depot of manpower in the southernmost large harbor of any size in the Philippine archipelago. That is the harbor of Davao which looks directly down into the Straits of Makassar, that narrow strait dividing Borneo and Celebes Islands in the Dutch East Indies and leading down toward Australia. The Japanese probably have a big head start toward the development of Davao as a base for operations against enemy territory to the south. For the past twenty years Japanese companies like the Mitsuis and individual Japanese settlers have given more attention to this jungle region of the extreme south end of Mindanao Island and have put more money and effort into this area than any other area of the vast Pacific which was not directly under Japanese ownership. Many persons wondered why the Japanese did not invest rather in the more developed part of the Philippines, but it appears now they were "foolish like a fox" as the

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saying goes. Around Davao settlers were securing land in the name of Filipino wives and have developed thousands of acres of plantations providing not only hemp and fat but plantations which can provide food to large Japanese expeditionary forces and naval base personnel. Off the end of Davao Bay runs the deepest gash in the whole ocean's floor---estimated to be 35,000 feet down into the crust of the earth--and this gash running the length of Makassar Strait divides Asia from Oceania according to the experts on anthropology, geology and botany. The aim is obviously to make Davao Bay the jumping off place for the conquest of the entire eastern end of the Dutch East Indies consisting mainly of the huge island of New Guinea and the large Island of Celebes. Meanwhile, Borneo, third largest Island in the world -- call Australia a continent and ranks Borneo next to New Guinea and Greenland in size -- Borneo would be pinched between a Japanese base in Davao Bay and the Japanese base that has been a building for about a year now in Camrangh Bay on the Indo-China Coast. Davao is obviously to be used for the attack on Celebes and New Guinea much as Hainan Island, Hanoy and Camrough Bay on the Indo-China coast have been used as the stepping stones for the attack on Malaya and Singapore.

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In their two-pronged attack on the Dutch East Indies, the Japanese plan to procure their fuel as they go along. There are three important oil fields in the Dutch East Indies. One in Borneo which is the older and smaller but is counted upon to fuel Japanese expeditions against the East Indies and Australia. The other two are in Sumatra and Java. It is the newer and larger and much more promising oil bearing area which the Japanese will try to make their fueling base for their penetration into the entire Indian Ocean region. The Dutch and British owners of the oil fields in the Netherlands Indies have always maintained that they would destroy oil storing facilities and wells before permitting their capture by the Japanese. This morning a Japanese bulletin claims that eight out of twelve captured wells in Sarawak, the sultinate of Rajah Brooke in North Borneo, has already been restored to operation. It is a very difficult thing to put an oil well out of commission more than temporarily, as was discovered in Rumania. The great American invention by our Mr. John Eastman of directional drilling which enables the tapping of a fired or blasted oil well by putting down a hole at an angle from a little distance away was imported into the near Eastern and Balkan oil fields just before the war.

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Whether the Japanese have it or not we do not know.

Before conducting a serious assault upon white Australia, the Japanese General Staff will probably attempt to procure a second stepping stone to the south of Makassar Strait. The original Japanese intention was to procure the little Island of Timur for this purpose. Timur is the only surviving area of this end of the Dutch East Indian archipelgo once quite dominated by the Portuguese, which has remained under the Portuguese flag. Only a month or so before the Japanese assault upon Pearl Harbor, Japanese civil aeronautics authorities finally succeeded in procuring from the Portuguese government the permit to establish an air service from the Pelew Islands, one of portions of the Mandated Group which Japan got away from the League Nations, down to Timur. This was done over the protests of the Dutch. Immediately upon the outbreak of war the Dutch and British moved to take over the Portuguese part of Timur regardless of the protest which came from Lisbon. However, the defenses of the Island are very slight compared to the force that Japan could throw against it, and likely the Japanese have prepared a full blown fifth column movement in the former Portuguese possession.

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The fullblown Japanese attack upon Australia, which is still some steps ahead for the Japanese staff strategy, would probably be accompanied an aerial smash from carriers at the two big centers of Australian population, Melbourne and Sydney. Such a disaster would surely complete the awkening of white nations to a realization of what is happening to the prestige of the white race over half of the earth. The Australian people are alert to this situation-- in fact they are getting really hot under the collar about it endeavoring to impress their viewpoint upon the Government in Washington and London, and they are looking more towards Washington than they are to London.

Now as to the Malay campaign--- the most important thus far-- the Japanese forces are encircling Singapore, and unless enough counter air force can be provided for that base and hugh sprawling city, it will be at the mercy of Japanese bombing attacks from the British air base just lost to the Japanese lessthan two hundred miles away at Kuantan, on the Pacific Ocean side of Malay. Meanwhile, the Japanese are bringing down small boats captured around Georgetown, that is Penang, on the Indian Ocean side along

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the Melacca Coast. At the end of this Coast is a creek or inlet which cuts in right up to the Singapore base itself, behind the City of Singapore. No doubt these captured sampans from up the Peninsula will be used to land the final assault upon the base and on the City from its rear there in Johore Creek provided there is not enough air force to keep the invaders off. Meanwhile Japanese converting Penang, on the Indian Ocean side of the Peninsula, into an main fort of operations and by means of a military railroad across the Peninsula or even by a hastily dug canal through it, Japanese forces will construct a direct bypass into the Indian Ocean region leaving Singapore to be starved out or reduced at leisure and the Dutch forces to the south to be attacked as strategy shall dictate. This is all of course provided a really menacing British-American-Dutch force backed by sufficient air power cannot be provided to operate from General Wavell's new base in Java. If it can, this will be the turning point of the war. If it cannot within the next few days, our defeat there will be very severe indeed.

For the cheerfull side we must turn to the Chinese armies.

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Up in Central China where it is most difficult for the Japanese to use modern mechanized warfare, which they learned from us, anyway the Chinese have learned to defeat such air and tank attacks as the Japanese can make by extreme mobility a Japanese offensive against Changsha has received a crushing defeat. The laurels must go to the Chinese for the only victory of the first month of the Great Pacific War and this is indeed something for an historian to note who has been noting the changing balance of prestige between the European and American peoples and the Asiatic peoples. Meanwhile, the most promising development of the dark Malayan picture is the progress of a Chinese force down through Burma to attack the Japanese invading force in their rear, in the narrow Kra Isthmus part of Peninsula. They still have a long way to go before making contact.

The war is becoming very realistic to us here in San Francisco and other Pacific Coast Ports with the arrival of evacuation ships from the Hawaiian Islands. The story of one army wife with four little children who wandered in a dazed condition into a waffle shop not far from me here. Mother and children were shivering in our very mild San Francisco weather but the most common experience of evacuees from

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CLOSE: (Continued)

from the tropical Hawaiians and other Islands is to suffer from cold. The bartender found the bar next door to the waffle shop, (in the East you call it a tavern, but that's illegal in this California,) shyly asked the mother if she would accept fifty dollars to clothe herself. Her gratitude and willingness to take the gift quickly removed all of his shyness and rewarded him for his generosity.

They had been long on a crowded ship most of which time was spent in port waiting for the ship to leave. Hot water and other usual facilities were lacking during this time and the mother and children had to wear their rough, heavy life belts day and night to be ready for bombing at any time -- until the mother's body was in agony from soreness.

When one of the customers spoke loudly or abruptly the children nearly jumped out of their skins. These, we begin to realize here, are American women and children--- refugees from the ruthless attack on American soil .

This time the smart waitress knew what to do. She sent the refugees to the right department of the Red Cross, and an hour later the proud mother brought her brood of four back, all in cunning ski suits, for the waitress to look over, before she took them aboard a train for their grandmother's home somewhere inland.

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ANNOUNCER: From the San Francisco Newsroom, we have presented
Upton Close, distinguished authority on Far Eastern
Affairs. This is the National Broadcasting Company.

THIS WEEK OF WAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1942

4:00 - 4:30 PM PST

UPTON CLOSE

SF PORTION APPROX 4:22 - 4:29:40 PMPST

PROGRAM POENS IN WASHINGTON WITH EARL GODWIN AND WILLIAM HILLMAN. CUE FROM
WASHINGTON TO ROBERT ST. JOHN IN LONDON AT APPROX 4:15 PM PST

CUE TO SF FROM LONDON AT APPROX 4:22 PM PST..."UPTON CLOSE IN SAN FRANCISCO".

NOTE: IF LONDON FAILS TO CUE IN UPTON CLOSE PROPERLY, SAN FRAN
ANNCR SAYS: "NOW, FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO NEWSROOM WE PRESENT UPTON CLOSE,
OUTSTANDING AUTHORITY ON FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS. MR CLOSE."

CLOSING (IN SAN FRAN)

ANNCR: YOU HAVE JUST HEARD "THIS WEEK OF WAR"...AN NBC
PRESENTATION SUMMARIZING AND INTERPRETING EVENTS OF THE
PAST WEEK ON THE WAR FRONTS OF THE WORLD. HEARD ON
TODAY'S PROGRAM WERE THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY'S
NOTED NEWS ANALYSTS, EARL GODWIN AND WILLIAM HILLMAN
IN WASHINGTON....ROBERT ST. JOHN, WHO SPOKE FROM
LONDON...AND UPTON CLOSE SPEAKING FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO
NEWS ROOM.

THIS IS THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-16-99 BY SPI CLK/M.T.

Upton Close NBC Red Network "Roundup of War" Jan. 10, 1942 4:00-4:30 p.m. PS

The end of the fifth week of war in the Pacific sees the logical culmination of the situation which took the American and British people by surprise at the very beginning of that war. That was the situation of complete Japanese air superiority. Hard, bitter facts of the progress of the Japanese forces now tell the waiting world that in the five weeks since the first treacherous Japanese assault, Britain and America have not been able to repair the lack of air force in this vital air sector of war. The whys and wherefores and pros and cons of the situation is for Parliament and Congress to thrash out with all due consideration for military strategy and secrets but not necessarily with consideration for the fates of individuals who may have made very costly mistakes. It is not the news analyst's job either to swing an axe or to be concerned where the chips fly.

Now for a little description of the campaign against Singapore taking place in the thick lower end of long, peculiar shaped Malay Peninsula.

The Japanese invaders now have in their control the flatter upper portion of the Malay Peninsula extending from the very narrowest portion, Kra Isthmus, where they first landed, down to just below the tin and rubber town of Kuala Lumpur. From there south to Singapore, is only about two hundred miles, but it is two hundred miles of mountainous country with a range of altitude from palm grown flats up bouganville covered slopes to pine clad summits. The highway thru this stretch is composed of hairpin turns and steep grades and the railway runs through many tunnels. In this mountainous area, known loosely as the Pahang mountains, defenders have the ground very much more in their favor. Furthermore, the altitude and relative absence of all kinds of insects make fighting much easier for white soldiers as well as for the Sikh worriers of northern India who compose a large portion of the defending troops.

But without air force Singapore city itself is as defenceless as was Manila and the fate of the base itself without defending air force must depend upon how many dive bombers Japan is willing to offer for destruction by the anti-aircraft guns. A dispatch last night told us that whenever the people of Singapore heard air-plane motors they took to cover, for the only planes in the air were enemy planes. If this be true, it expresses the whole tragedy of the situation in a nutshell. British forces may persist for an indefinite time in the mountainous area between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur just as General MacArthur's forces in the Philippines are holding out in the mountains between Olongapo and the Boca Chica or LITTLE MOUTH of Manila Bay lying north of Corregidor Island. The great city of Singapore, the cleanest, the best policed city in the whole equatorial belt anywhere around this world, will be made a shambles at the will of the force which has the command of the air.

Singapore has a population of 750,000 persons augmented now, no doubt, to more than a million by refugees. The small British community of 50,000 or so persons has been the ruling class and part of the big business community, particularly dealing in rubber, oil, tin, and banking. The backbone of the business community and the industrial community are the Chinese numbering possibly a half million out of the total population. At the head of the Chinese community are forty or fifty of the wealthiest Chinese capitalists in the world, millionaires such as the famous and eccentric Aw Boon Haw and his brother, who own the most lucrative patent medicine business in Asia, called Tiger Balm, and who endow universities, support the nationalists movement in China, run orphans homes, and build strange palaces in the shape of concentric circles and rows and rows of statuary of their Chinese ancestors done in Italian marble by modern sculptors.

Millionaire Aw Boon Haw was in his great Hong Kong palace on Repulse Bay on the backside of Hong Kong Island, when the Japanese landed there, their first landing on the Island of Hong Kong proper. Mr. Joe Fisher, known popularly on the co-Asia coast as "Singapore Joe", owner of a string of theaters over there, is in San Francisco with a marvelous film of colored shots of the little known Pacific Basin from Honolulu right around through the Dutch East Indies and up into China. He told me this morning that Aw Boon Haw escaped from Hong Kong to Macao, the Portuguese gambling resort on the mainland of China, in a sampan paying twelve hundred dollars for a journey usually worth about two dollars and a half. There he got back to his Singapore home by chartering a plane and flying all the way to Chungking and then down through Burma to Singapore, which is like going from Buffalo to New York by way of New Orleans. Now the Japanese are closing in on him and his kind, the Chinese who have contributed so continuously to the Chinese strength in the world.

The one unit of allied striking force in the southeast Asian war picture is the force of American bombers serviced and flown by American and Chinese experts and pilots on the Burma Road. Not only have Japanese air force been unable to gain superiority in the air, and not only have Japanese air attacks on the Burma Road and the Chinese American air bases here met with disastrous repulses but this little air force concentration has actually raided as far away as Thailand (or Siam) six to eight hundred miles away seeking Japanese concentrations.

The Japanese will now bend every effort to avail themselves of the tin and rubber of the overrun region of Malaya. The scorched earth policy by the retreating Imperial Troops could be on sketchy. In the first place there isn't much about a tin mine you can destroy. Huge limestone monuments on or even sticking above the surface of the ground, hoisting derricks, and crushing mills can soon be replaced. The complicated part about tin is the smelting, and up to now practically all the world's tin smelting has been done in England and Scotland with the beginnings of others in the Dutch East Indies.

How well equiped the Japanese are to take up tin smelting remains to be seen, still it would not be an unusual thing at all for in Kobe or Osaka to turn out to have a tin smelter Billiton and Banka which lie between the stub end of Sumatra, Borneo across Billiton Passage and the thin line of Java at the bottom of what is the inland sea of the Netherlands East Indies archipelgo. Preservation of the rubber plantations of Sumatra and Java and the two little tin islands of the Dutch protectorate, which by the way were part of the trade Holland once got from England in return for the now threatened Singapore, preservation of these two store houses of essential material for modern war now become doubly important to the unified powers. Japan's navy and air force and troop concentrations are now preparing at Davao Bay, the naval base taken from the United States in the southernmost island of the Philippines, for the Japanese assault upon Japan's number one economic objective, the Dutch East Indies.

Huge Australia becomes the counter for repelling that assault, Java the outpost. Meanwhile the armies of Chiang Kai-Shek continue to be the main bolster of the anti-Axis forces in the west Pacific. For this reason Japan may be expected either before or after the assault on the Dutch East Indies or even during it, to make a tremendous air, submarine and land drive directed toward cutting off China from American munitions in the Bay of Bengal and on the Coast of Burma.

Japan's effort in this direction will include fifth columnist enterprises and revolutionary movements. The scales of war now balance between Russia's successes and America's and Britain's losses. We on the Pacific expect some sudden move out of Germany to put a new face on the entire world picture.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 1942.

UPTON CLOSE

(9:00 to 9:15 am PST)

OPENING

ANNCR: From the NBC news room in San Francisco, the National Broadcasting company presents its noted analyst of far eastern affairs,
Mr. Upton Close.....

CLOSING

ANNCR: You have been listening to an analysis of the war in the far east
by Upton Close, NBC's commentator on far eastern affairs.
This program originated in the NBC news room in San Francisco.

THIS IS THE RED NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY.

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DATE 4-16-99 BY SP CLK/MR

Upton Close NBC Red Network 9:15-9:30 p.m., PST. Jan 11, 1942

The thing to take note of this morning as we face the possible loss of Singapore is that now there is need to avoid the extreme of discouragement, and depression just as previously there was need to get away from the widespread indifference to the prime importance of the Pacific picture. It is not long since those who tried to paint the real picture of the Pacific were sometimes dismissed as alarmists - and even accused of trying to divert America's attention from the war in Europe. Now that the worst has happened in the Pacific and happened in the worst way, a tendency may arise in some circles to plunge into deep gloom and bafflement. Now this is an extreme just as truly to be avoided at the present time as the other extreme which should have been avoided before the enemy took advantage of it. The general picture is still in our favor if we can put the power which this country is perfectly capable of mustering right now, most particularly air force, in the right places.

Let us look at the overall picture this morning frankly with no desire to hide our eyes from anything and at the same time fearlessly in full confidence of our national courage, strength and staying power.

Begin with the situation around Singapore. Observers have known all along but scarcely felt free to say, that Singapore's strength as a bastion has been greatly over-rated in the public mind.

The base is located on the north side of tiny Singapore Island along the narrow inlet or creek that separate's the Island from the last sultanate on the Peninsula, called the Sultanate of Johore. The base itself has some anti-aircraft guns and some batteries pointed to prevent an attacking enemy from crossing from Johore. Defense of the base from attack from the north depends upon fortifications up in Johore some distance away but air attack can simply hop over these air defenses. Air attack can also destroy the beautiful granite bridge connecting Singapore Island with Johore near the western sea entrance to the creek.

This would interpose a water obstacle to army operations but present no obstacle to artillery bombardment which coupled with air bombardment could batter the base almost at will.

As to Singapore as a naval base, the huge dry docks and several smaller docks, not all finished as late as last June, were dug out of the mud, but they and the repair shops and public machinery are exposed to air attack. The base facilities have never been built up sufficiently to take care of even the needs of the British Navy operating in these waters, as witness the number of British warships that have passed through Malacca Strait almost within sight of the base to go to Cavite in Manila Bay for temporary repairs on their way to America for complete repairs. It is not on record that any American warship has ever used the Singapore Base, and when the big Queen Mary put into the big dry dock for repairs to her hull it took something like four months to repair her.

The strength of Singapore has been dependent upon the amount of navy which could be based upon it and serviced by it. This has never been sufficient but when lack of air protection made it impossible to longer use Singapore as a base for ship repairs and outfitting, then Singapore, whether captured by Japanese armies or not, ceased to be a base of active operations.

The second situation which has long made the value of Singapore as a base questionable has been the Japanese ability to bypass Singapore some nine hundred miles to the north through the Gulf of Siam and the narrow Isthmus of Kra into the Indian Ocean. No garrison, artillery and air craft were based on the Isthmus of Kra to prevent the Japanese landing there whenever they chose. No force stopped their coming in from Thailand on the railway which connected Siam and Malaya. It was evident that Singapore's value as a bastion protecting the strategic country to the north and for keeping Japan out of the Indian Ocean basin no longer existed.

Singapore did have a prestige value however to hold the Japanese back morally, so long as Singapore was a symbol which, remaining unattacked, meant that Japan feared to attack the British Empire and involve America.

But as soon as Japan took this risk and attacked, the value of Singapore was no longer in terms of prestige but purely in terms of force and equipment.

That value has now been reduced to what military men call a "holding operation", that is the value is dependent upon the number of Japanese soldiers, tanks and airplanes that General Pownall's desparate resistance holds back from being used in Japan's southward drive toward Sumatra and Java.

Now with the Singapore campaign reduced to a holding operation on the same status as that of General MacArthur in the hills east of Manila Bay, where do we stand?

We stand facing two immediate and essential tasks. One is the protection of the main rubber, tin and oil producing regions of the Dutch East Indies, Sumatra and Java and Billeton Passage, the Inland sea which lies between them and Borneo. The second task, even more important if anything can be more important, is the preservation of a route to China which means the mastery of Burma and the Bay of Bengal and the enclosed portion of the Bay of Bangal lying to the west of the Malay Peninsula, between it and the Andaman Islands.

These are the two clear tasks of allied strategy lying at hand, and whether Singapore falls or not they are not impossible tasks and on the contrary, hopeful indications of their achievements are appearing. From the Dutch East Indies comes an indication as to how to go about that part of the job in an announcement that Dutch planes are waiting at fifty secret points to pounce upon Japanese vessels that may enter their waters.

Now if there are enough planes in these fifty points it's going to be rough landings for any Japanese invaders indeed. The Dutch have adopted the common sense tactics of dispersal. Scores of small landing fields at widely separated points from which planes can operate in unison by means of radio communication.

No more of these senseless concentrations at large airports of planes suddenly put out of business by being bombed to smithereens on the ground. Now it is to be remembered in our favor that in attacking Hong Kong, the Philippines and Malay, the Japanese had the advantage of concentrated attacks upon key points, Luzon Island and particularly the area around Manila Bay meant the Philippine archipelago, so far as Japanese conquest was concerned. The Isthmus of Kra, Penang and Singapore mean Malay.

But as the Japanese proceed southward toward the vast Dutch East Indian archipelago, which is strung out from east to west over a distance greater than the width of the American Continent from San Francisco to Halifax, the odds reverse.

As Japan progresses now she must disperse her forces and this dispersal takes her further and further from her bases.

Japan's drive upon this strung out archipelago is a three pronged attack--One prong down the Malay Peninsula and China Sea against the heart of the archipelago in eastern Sumatra and Java--The second from Davao, the new Japanese base in the Philippines, down Makassar Strait to Borneo toward the main Dutch naval base in Surabaya in the eastern tip of Java. The third prong is revealed by last night's bombing of the Bismarck archipelago by planes from the Japanese western most mandated Islands, away out in the Pacific. This prong points through the Bismarck group and New Hebrides, toward the northwestern arc of Australia.

Now as to the second job, that of maintaining contact with China. This has got to be done now through Australia and long group of Dutch Islands known as the Sunda group, which comprise that long string of Islands which are shaped like worms lying end to end, including Timur, Bali, Java and Sumatra.

Through and along the southern shores of this Sunda string, on up into the Indian Ocean and Burma is the lifeline of the unified nations in this Pacific War. This is now our lifeline to China. In this biggest job of keeping China in fighting trim in Japan's rear, we have great encouragement in the recent news of China's military successes and energetic activities.

In the first place, in the matter of air supremacy, the American-British-Chinese flying force on the Burmese border has thus far not only maintained supremacy of the air over the Burma Road but is out to get control of the air over all Burma, and is even going afield a to a distance of nearly a thousand miles, to raid new Japanese air bases in Siam and the North end of the Malay Peninsula. Yesterday's record was most encouraging, with two raids on Japanese fields in the vicinity of Bangkok itself, which turned the tables on the Japanese in one of their favorite tricks - the trick of getting the enemy's planes on the grounds.

Then we have substantiation of the overwhelming Chinese victory up in central China around Changsha. This is the fourth time the Japanese have been licked to a frazzle in this lake area of Central China. And the thing that makes us most encouraged about the Chinese armies are the indications that they are equipped with a surprising amount of modern material - Light field artillery which is obviously being made right in China itself now, and airplanes, and, it is reported even some tanks. Apparently this must be credited to the activities of live T. V. Soong, the brother of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, who has been recently appointed foreign minister of China although he is residing in our Capitol. It seems that he was successful in getting a considerable amount of American mechanized equipment in the shape of cannon, and perhaps even tanks, up into China before the Japanese jumped the gun. We have a reported Chinese victory around the north China railway center of Chengchow, C-H-E-N-G-C-H-O-W, and an unexpected Chinese push in the extreme in the north on the

border of Mongolia, which will have a strong moral effect upon the Mongols.

Thus at three points on the strung-out border between the Chinese and Japanese fighting forces across China, three points separated from each other by five hundred miles, Japanese have received humiliating treatment. There is another Chinese drive to be watched - about which little information yet exists. It is a Chinese drive through the hill country of South China in the direction of the China Sea. Chinese armies have been reported in force within a few miles of the mountain-rimmed harbor of Amoy. Disastrous indeed for the Japanese, would be the Chinese recovery of territory on the sea coast sufficient for the establishment of an air base from which American bombers could have at their mercy the big Japanese naval bases in Formosa, in the Philippines the new bases and the Japanese depot of man power at their mercy, as well as the thousands of ships transporting Japanese soldiers and supplies toward the front to the south.

From such a base even the cities and factories of Japan proper could be bombed. But of course the heroic work of the Chinese armies in recovering such a base will be worthless unless we maintain a route of contact over which to send our planes to China and unless we actually send the planes.

Singapore or no Singapore, the battle of the Pacific is far from lost, but the battle of the Pacific must be fought - and fought with action not talk.

Meanwhile, the Japanese will bend every effort to avail themselves of the tin and rubber of the overrun region of Malaya. The scorched earth policy by the retreating British Imperial Troops could be only sketchy. In the first place there isn't much about a tin mine you can destroy. The huge tin-producing limestone monuments, on, or even sticking above the surface of the ground, cannot be destroyed.

Derricks and crushing mills can soon be replaced. The complicated part about tin production is the smelting, and up to now practically all the world's tin smelting has been done in England and Scotland with some beginnings in the Dutch East Indies. How well equiped the Japanese are to take up tin smelting remains to be seen, still it would not be a surprising thing at all for Kobe or Osaka to turn out to have a tin smelter completely equiped in spite of having no access to ore at all - that is until now. As to rubber plantations, it is next to impossible to burn the sap-filled trees, and they are the toughest of wood to cut down. Furthermore, the dark-skinned people from southern India and the Chinese who do the coolie labor on the rubber plantations know that their livelihood comes from those trees no matter who owns them. Those coolies will be loathe to go out and destroy plantations which mean their meager livelihood and the food for their children, at the orders of a retreating army, and the British and Sikh fighters themselves are far too busy at this moment to spend their time chopping down rubber trees.

The end of the fifth week of the war finds Japanese armies in possession of one of the world's two greatest rubber districts and one of the world's two greatest tin deposit areas. The other great rubber district is in Sumatra and Java, and the other great tin deposits are on the little Islands Billeton and Banckoa which lie in the inland sea between Sumatra, Borneo and Java - which is like a thin line at the bottom of the Netherlands East Indies archipelago. These two little tin islands, by the way, were part of the trade Holland once got from England in return for the now threatened Singapore. Protection of the rubber plantations of Sumatra and Java and the two little tin islands of the Dutch protectate, - preservation of these two store houses of essential material for modern war - now become doubly important to the unified powers.